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### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

### Country programme document\*\*

#### Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Bosnia and Herzegovina is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and comments. The Executive Board is requested to approve the aggregate indicative budget of \$4,270,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$25,730,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2015 to 2019.

\* E/ICEF/2014/14.

\*\* In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on a draft version that was shared with them 12 weeks before the 2014 second regular session of the Executive Board.



## Programme rationale

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina is an **upper-middle-income country and potential candidate for membership in the European Union (EU)**. The country is highly decentralized, with most government functions delegated to the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (which has 10 cantonal governments), Republika Srpska and District of Brcko, as per the structure defined in the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>1</sup> Governance issues in a complex structure and economic crisis have slowed the pace of reforms, and important challenges remain for the equitable realization of the rights of all children.

2. One of the most critical issues is the fact that **more than half of the population (58 per cent) is poor or socially excluded and at risk of poverty or exclusion**<sup>2</sup>. This is expected to increase after the unprecedented floods that hit Bosnia and Herzegovina in May 2014. The situation is particularly difficult for vulnerable families and children: children with disabilities; children of minorities, including Roma; and children in impoverished communities.<sup>3</sup> With UNICEF support, social protection and inclusion systems have been strengthened and 23 per cent of the country's municipalities have established special services for the most vulnerable children and families. These include day-care services for children with disabilities and mobile outreach teams for out-of-school Roma and rural children.<sup>4</sup> However, challenges persist. The main bottlenecks include inefficient targeting of social assistance (only one quarter of poor people are reached), as pointed out by the Committee on the Rights of the Child;<sup>5</sup> unharmonized legislation and fragmented systems, which prevent minimum benefits from reaching all vulnerable families; increasing yet insufficient coordination mechanisms within and between sectors; lack of capacities among social workers; and limited outreach activities.

3. Attendance in **early childhood education** increased from just 6 per cent in 2006 to 13 per cent<sup>6</sup> in 2012, but that proportion falls to 1.5 per cent among Roma children and 2 per cent among children from the poorest quintile.<sup>7</sup> Through UNICEF advocacy with the Government, preschool education gained momentum, and almost half of the country's children (46 per cent)<sup>8</sup> have begun attending minimum preschool programmes prior to first grade, as required by the legislative framework. Initial efforts have been made to introduce systematic **early detection of developmental delays** and appropriate interventions. Remaining bottlenecks include lack of budget allocation, fees that prevent enrolment of

<sup>1</sup> [www.ccbh.ba/public/download/USTAV\\_BOSNE\\_I\\_HERCEGOVINE\\_engl.pdf](http://www.ccbh.ba/public/download/USTAV_BOSNE_I_HERCEGOVINE_engl.pdf);

[www.ohr.int/print/?content\\_id=5907](http://www.ohr.int/print/?content_id=5907); [www.ohr.int/const/rs/default.asp?content\\_id=5908](http://www.ohr.int/const/rs/default.asp?content_id=5908)

<sup>2</sup> William Bartlett, 'Gap analysis in the area of social protection and inclusion policies in BiH', UNICEF, 2013, p. 13, table 2.

<sup>3</sup> Multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS4) data; Extended household budget survey (EHBS) 2011; Initiative for Better and Humane Inclusion (IBHI) Report on Poverty in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2013; World Bank data; UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina, Report on the Situation of Roma children and families in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2013

<sup>4</sup> Data gathered through programme monitoring and evaluation.

<sup>5</sup> [http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC/C/BIH/CO/2-4&Lang=En](http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC/C/BIH/CO/2-4&Lang=En)

<sup>6</sup> 14.4 per cent Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 10.3 per cent Republika Srpska.

<sup>7</sup> MICS4, 14 male, 12.2 female; for Roma, 1.6 female, 1.4 male.

<sup>8</sup> UNICEF monitoring and evaluation section calculated this percentage using official government statistics: 65 per cent Republika Srpska; 37 per cent Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

vulnerable children, insufficient capacities, service providers' prejudices towards children with disabilities and Roma children, and limited implementation of inclusive curricula.

4. Another critical issue is **equity gaps in education**. While attendance is high, at 98 per cent in primary education<sup>9</sup> and 92 per cent in secondary education,<sup>10</sup> for Roma children these figures drop to 69 per cent and 23 per cent respectively. The rate is 27 per cent for Roma boys and 18 per cent for Roma girls (secondary education). As noted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in its 2012 concluding observations on Bosnia and Herzegovina, access to education remains limited for children with disabilities, and ethnic division persists.<sup>11</sup> The main bottlenecks preventing access to systematic, high-quality, inclusive education include data gaps; prejudice against minority ethnic groups (of which the largest is Roma) and children with disabilities; limited teacher capacities; and low demand by parents. Additionally, **unemployment** is very high, at 28 per cent<sup>12</sup> overall and 63 per cent among young people – evidence of a gap between the education system and the labour market.

5. With UNICEF support, a legislative framework is in place for **integrated early childhood development (IECD)**. Services have started to expand, including home visiting to reach marginalized families, which now reaches 10 per cent of Bosnia and Herzegovina municipalities,<sup>13</sup> with most services for the most vulnerable families. Challenges persist with early detection of developmental delays and adequate interventions. Immunization levels remain low, at 68 per cent overall<sup>14</sup> and a dismal 4 per cent for Roma children,<sup>15</sup> and equity gaps persist among children under 5 and in infant mortality and malnutrition. Bottlenecks include insufficient resources, low awareness of services among hard-to-reach population groups and a limited number of qualified staff.

6. **Juvenile offences** have fallen by approximately 10 per cent overall since 2010. The decline has been larger, 16 per cent and 30 per cent<sup>16</sup> respectively, in the third and fourth largest cities (Tuzla and Zenica), where the UNICEF-supported 'Justice for Children' programme was implemented. However, the Committee on the Rights of the Child continues to be concerned with insufficient alternative measures to detention and forms of rehabilitation for children in conflict with the law. It recommended the development and strengthening of systems to recognize the rights of children to express their views in relevant legal proceedings.<sup>17</sup> Bottlenecks for further progress include both service providers' limited capacity to ensure children have access to justice and scarce awareness among children and their families about the services available to them.

7. The Transformative Monitoring for Enhanced Equity (TransMonEE) database<sup>18</sup> indicates a high rate of **children in residential care**, reaching 276 per 100,000 in 2011.

<sup>9</sup> 97.2 per cent Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 98.9 per cent Republika Srpska. Primary education in Bosnia and Herzegovina refers to grades 1-9.

<sup>10</sup> 92.0 per cent Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 91.6 per cent Republika Srpska.

<sup>11</sup> [http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC/C/BIH/CO/2-4&Lang=En](http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC/C/BIH/CO/2-4&Lang=En)

<sup>12</sup> 26.4 per cent men and 30.7 per cent women, International Labour Organization 2012.

<sup>13</sup> IECD services are available in 15 municipalities.

<sup>14</sup> 67.0 per cent Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 71.6 per cent Republika Srpska.

<sup>15</sup> MICS4.

<sup>16</sup> Calculation by UNICEF monitoring and evaluation staff based on government statistics.

<sup>17</sup> Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, 2012, p. 8, paragraph 33. In April 2014, Republika Srpska passed an amendment to the Family Law that calls for children to participate in relevant family legal proceedings affecting them.

<sup>18</sup> [www.transmonee.org/index.html](http://www.transmonee.org/index.html).

Major bottlenecks to lowering this number include insufficient family support services, weak foster care systems, low awareness on alternatives to institutions and weak capacities among social workers. Only 3 per cent of the population is interested in becoming a foster caregiver,<sup>19</sup> and almost none want to serve in that role for children with disabilities, who represent 67 per cent<sup>20</sup> of all children in institutions. More than half of the country's children (55 per cent)<sup>21</sup> are subjected to violent discipline methods at home. In general, cases of **violence, neglect and abuse against children** are considered a family matter by the general public. Some progress has been achieved, but child protection bottlenecks remain, including limited awareness and service providers' weak capacity in detecting, reporting and addressing cases of violence.

8. As demonstrated by the May 2014 massive floods, Bosnia and Herzegovina is vulnerable to natural disasters - such as floods, landslides, extreme temperatures, earthquakes. The Bosnia and Herzegovina governments at all levels have started developing new measures needed to address the risk of floods and other natural disasters, including mitigation measures.

9. As documented in the Joint Country-Led Evaluation on Social Protection and Inclusion (SPI)<sup>22</sup> and an independent evaluation of the Justice for Children programme, one of the key lessons learned from the previous programme was the importance of **human rights-based cross-sectoral approaches**. Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms at all levels were instrumental in promoting local ownership and strengthening collaboration between sectors. The strong convening power of UNICEF and its recognized ability to partner with governments and civil society, as highlighted in the midterm review, contributed to fostering this coordination, which helps in addressing the multiple deprivations faced by the most vulnerable children.

10. Another lesson learned, documented by the joint SPI evaluation and the MTR, has been the effectiveness of combining **support for system reforms with the development of robust and innovative models** that shape and operationalize policy development and legislative changes, focusing on the most vulnerable groups. To overcome the initial challenge of expansion and sustainability, the programme undertook a strategic shift to mainstream early childhood development (ECD) services into existing health services. This enabled a strong multisectoral focus and progressive scaling-up of such services. A similar strategy was adopted to expand early childhood education into primary schools, saving resources and ensuring sustainable enrolment growth.

11. Finally, the success of **capacity development programmes depends on their institutionalization**, which ensures expansion and sustainability. This finding was documented in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the Justice for Children evaluations.

## Programme priorities and partnerships

<sup>19</sup> Knowledge, attitudes and practices survey on fostering and violence against children, UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2013.

<sup>20</sup> [www.transmonee.org](http://www.transmonee.org)

<sup>21</sup> MICS4, p. 203.

<sup>22</sup> The Joint Country-Led Evaluation on Social Protection and Inclusion was conducted in 2011/2012, jointly with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Civil Affairs, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Republika Srpska Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Brcko District and other ministries.

12. The overall goal of the country programme is to support the efforts of Bosnia and Herzegovina to accelerate the universal realization of child rights by fostering greater social inclusion, especially of the most vulnerable and excluded children and families: children with disabilities, children of minorities, especially Roma, and children in impoverished communities. This is to be done by reducing disparities and inequities and strengthening social cohesion among groups. The programme will contribute to implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as achievement of the post-2015 development agenda. Key priorities will include child rights monitoring, social protection, justice for children, early childhood education and young child well-being for all children, including children with disabilities and Roma children.

13. The programme will address key bottlenecks by working to (a) improve the enabling environment by facilitating cross-sectoral coordination and strengthening capacities to design, implement and budget for child-related policies and laws; (b) strengthen systems and capacities for equitable provision of quality and innovative services, especially for the most vulnerable children; and (c) enhance demand by advocating for reduced fees, demonstrating quality service provision, promoting outreach and empowering rights-holders, especially the most vulnerable families.

14. The programme will (a) facilitate a national dialogue on child-friendly social norms, including through communication for social change to trigger positive changes in behaviours and attitudes; (b) advocate as a strong and independent voice for children and adolescents; (c) help strengthen systems to monitor child rights; (d) leverage resources for children; (e) contribute to strengthening capacities to provide effective and innovative services, and facilitate the costing and assessment of policy models and programmes; (f) provide evidence-based policy advice and technical expertise; and (g) enable knowledge exchange. These core roles reflect the foundational normative principles of the human rights-based approach to development, gender mainstreaming and environmental sustainability. In addition they match the implementation strategies of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, and regional strategies.

15. The programme will also closely identify and monitor assumptions and risks for the achievement of expected results. These include political developments that could jeopardize reform processes and result in social unrest, as well as natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and extreme temperatures. UNICEF will continue to support efforts by Bosnia and Herzegovina to strengthen disaster risk reduction (DRR), response and resilience.

### **Child rights monitoring, social protection and inclusion**

16. This programme component, which complements and supports the others, seeks to strengthen the country's capacity to monitor child rights, reduce poverty and provide inclusive access to social protection services, especially for the most disadvantaged children.

17. The programme will support effective **child rights monitoring and evaluation mechanisms**, including systematic gathering, analysis and use of disaggregated data. Priorities will comprise harmonizing social statistics data, facilitating coordination and strengthening capacities of relevant ministries, ombudspersons and the media. UNICEF will support responsible government institutions and civil society networks in reporting to

the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The programme will advocate for realization of all children's rights with equity and will promote child participation.

18. Building on progress made on reform of the **social protection and inclusion** sector, the programme will seek to reduce poverty and address equity gaps. This will be achieved through advocacy and technical assistance for legislation and policies, evidence-based budget reallocations, knowledge exchange and inclusive social protection systems. The programme will continue to promote expansion of the SPI model through system change and increased coverage at local level<sup>23</sup> through multisectoral commissions; vulnerability needs assessments; systematic participation of children, families and civil society; referral protocols; municipal action plans; and provision of services to the most vulnerable children.

19. This will be coupled with systematic modelling, documentation of lessons learned, sharing of best practices and costing analysis to leverage knowledge and influence laws, budgets and SPI systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Efforts will also be made to further strengthen systems and the resilience of children, families and communities so they will be better prepared to recover from the devastating May 2014 floods and to respond to other natural disasters and emergencies. Efforts will contribute to the following key results: (a) Cantons of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina have a harmonized approach to equitable minimum social benefits; (b) vulnerable children have access to enhanced inclusive services (such as day-care centres for children with disabilities) in 50 per cent of municipalities; and (c) an increased percentage of people support inclusion of children with disabilities.

### **Child protection and justice for children**

20. This programme component focuses on strengthening child protection systems, which will contribute to realizing children's right to be free from violence, neglect and abuse, including the right to live in a family environment, as well as children's access to justice.

21. The programme will provide technical assistance to strengthen capacities and promote cross-sectoral collaboration in order to **prevent and respond to cases of violence, neglect, abuse and family separation**. Evidence-based advocacy will aim at leveraging resources to implement alternatives to institutionalization, such as foster care. It will also support transformation of existing institutions to provide services to prevent family separation, particularly for children with disabilities. UNICEF will be the independent voice for children and adolescents. It will continue to play a key convening role in promoting multisectoral child protection referral mechanisms and violence prevention programmes in at least 40 per cent of all municipalities.

22. Professional development programmes will improve the capacity of social workers in managing child protection cases. Coupled with targeted behavioural change campaigns, these efforts will contribute to (a) reducing by at least 40 per cent the number of children in institutions; (b) reducing from 68 per cent to 40 per cent the proportion of children with disabilities in residential care; and (c) increasing the percentage of municipalities implementing the guidelines on the response system in cases of violence against children.

23. Building on previous achievements in juvenile justice, the programme will strengthen **children's access to justice**. Technical assistance will be provided to increase the use of child-friendly and gender-sensitive proceedings by the police, courts and prosecutors'

<sup>23</sup> Criteria to select additional municipalities will include size, number of children and magnitude of vulnerability/barriers to access to services.

offices. UNICEF will strengthen the capacities of legal aid providers to assist children and their families involved in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings as part of the overall goal to increase the number of children accessing the justice system. Technical assistance, knowledge exchange and local modelling of community-based alternative and diversion measures will inform policy development and strengthen pre-service and in-service capacity development for professionals. The programme will advocate for reallocation of resources for new services, emphasizing secondary and tertiary prevention. This will contribute to an increase in (a) the number of prosecutors' offices and municipal courts applying child-friendly procedures and (b) the percentage of children in conflict with the law benefiting from diversion and alternative measures.

### **Inclusive quality education**

24. The programme will support efforts to ensure the progressive realization of every child's right to inclusive learning through advocacy, capacity development, technical assistance and leveraging of resources. UNICEF will play a convening role in enhancing coordination across the various levels of governance and between education and other sectors.

25. In the area of **inclusive early learning**, the programme will support the continued expansion of preschool education programmes. It will use communication for social change to increase awareness on the importance of early childhood education, as well as inclusive and intercultural education. The programme will also support initiatives to increase the skills and capacities of professionals and promote adequate nutrition in preschools. At least 30 per cent of children will be enrolled in full preschool education programmes, including children with disabilities and Roma children. The programme will also support the transition from pre-primary to primary school.

26. To support the realization of **children's right to inclusive quality primary and secondary education**, the programme will address data gaps and identify invisible and excluded children. In line with the 'Call for Action on Education Equity', UNICEF will advocate for the importance of universal access and intercultural education; support inclusion of all children, particularly children from minority groups and children with disabilities; and strengthen capacities of teachers and other professionals on inclusive and intercultural education, social cohesion and equity.

27. UNICEF will also foster a dialogue on the quality of education with a focus on assessment of learning outcomes and equity gaps. Interventions will target communities with very low attendance rates. In addition, the programme will promote entrepreneurial learning in primary and secondary education through non-formal education to strengthen the skills of students and better prepare them for the labour market. It will also work to build resilience among pupils and school staff so they are better prepared for natural disasters. The main expected result will be increased attendance in primary and secondary education by Roma boys and girls (90 per cent primary and 50 per cent secondary,) and children with disabilities.

### **Young child well-being**

28. This programme component aims at achieving equitable access to and use of quality IECD services, particularly for vulnerable and excluded families with young children, such as Roma, and families with children with developmental difficulties.

29. Building on previous **IECD achievements**, remaining bottlenecks will be addressed through the expansion of IECD and early childhood intervention (ECI) services, including home visiting. UNICEF will leverage resources to improve access to quality IECD services for children with disabilities, Roma children and children from impoverished areas. The programme will support the adoption of intersectoral IECD action plans and budgets in 80 per cent of the cantons and 35 per cent of all municipalities; professional development programmes in IECD/ECI for health, social welfare and preschool professionals; and development of parenting skills and encouragement of equal involvement of mothers and fathers. Bosnia and Herzegovina will contribute to knowledge exchange within the country and globally through research, monitoring and evaluation, which will inform policy development. As a result, at least 35,000 children up to age 5 and their families will receive quality IECD and ECI services, including home visiting. The model will be expanded through system changes.

30. **Immunization** will be supported, particularly to reduce the risk of wild polio virus,<sup>24</sup> by closing equity gaps and addressing remaining bottlenecks, especially those related to social norms, service outreach and surveillance systems. This work will take place in close collaboration with government authorities and the World Health Organization. UNICEF will support the country in achieving European immunization targets. It will advocate for targeted immunization programmes, especially for Roma children, and will use communication for social change to address the anti-vaccine sentiment and restore trust in immunization.

31. The country programme supports key priorities outlined in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Plan of Action for Children for 2011-2014. The results are aligned with goals and targets identified at various levels of governance. The programme contributes to government sector strategies in justice, social protection and inclusion, health, IECD, education and children without parental care. It is also in line with key legislation and policy documents such as the Bosnia and Herzegovina Disability Policy (2008), Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (2011-2015), District of Brcko Development Strategy and Social Inclusion Strategy (2008-2017), Republika Srpska Juvenile Justice Law (2010), Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Juvenile Justice Act (2013), Republika Srpska Law on Social Protection, Bosnia and Herzegovina Strategy on Violence against Children (2011), Bosnia and Herzegovina Strategic Directions for the Development of Preschool Education and Care (2004), Framework Law for Preschool Education and Care (2007), Strategic Directions for the Development of Education and 2008-2015 implementing plan (2008), Framework Law for Primary and Secondary Education (2003), Bosnia and Herzegovina ECD Framework Policy (2012); Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska ECD policies (2011); Republika Srpska Health Policy 2020; and nutrition policies for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2013) and Republika Srpska (2012).

32. The new country programme derives directly from the **UNDAF 2015-2019**. It will contribute specifically to the achievement of 10 of the 13 outcomes under 4 focus areas: (1) sustainable and equitable development and employment (outcome on education and employability); (2) social inclusion (outcomes on education, social protection, child protection and health); (3) empowerment of women (outcome related to gender-based

<sup>24</sup> Bosnia and Herzegovina is at high risk for substantial wild polio virus transmission, as stated in the report of the 27th Meeting of the European Regional Certification Commission for Poliomyelitis Eradication, Copenhagen, 30-31 May 2013, p. 5.

violence); and (4) rule of law and human security (outcomes on justice, peacebuilding and DRR). The country programme has been developed with and will be implemented in close collaboration with other United Nations agencies.

33. The country programme is based on the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other relevant international instruments. It supports the 2012 concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The programme is in accordance with the EU 2020 Strategy on Social Inclusion and Strategy on Roma. It is in line with the post-2015 development agenda and the Hyogo Framework for Action. In addition, the programme contributes to the Regional Knowledge Management and Leadership Agenda of the UNICEF office for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

34. The country programme will be implemented in close partnerships with ministries and other government bodies at all levels of governance in line with the mandates of relevant institutions. The focus on multisectoral coordination will continue.

35. Alliances with civil society, celebrities and the media will continue to be critical in engaging society in promoting the progressive realization of the rights of all children. Efforts will be intensified to engage with parliamentarians, ombudspersons, the academic community, human rights institutions, youth organizations, associations of parents of children with disabilities, Roma organizations, the private sector and citizens.

36. Close collaboration will continue with the EU to place children's rights on the accession agenda; with the World Bank and the United States Agency for International Development on social protection and inclusion; with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency on justice for children; and with Dubai Cares on early childhood education. The country programme will also leverage a growing diversity of partnerships to promote cooperation within the country and across countries.

### Summary budget table

| <i>Programme component</i>                               | <i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i> |                        |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
|                                                          | <i>Regular resources</i>                       | <i>Other resources</i> | <i>Total</i>  |
| Child rights monitoring, social protection and inclusion | 880                                            | 6 620                  | 7 500         |
| Child protection and justice for children                | 755                                            | 6 245                  | 7 000         |
| Inclusive quality education                              | 880                                            | 8 120                  | 9 000         |
| Young child well-being                                   | 755                                            | 3 745                  | 4 500         |
| Cross-sectoral                                           | 1 000                                          | 1 000                  | 2 000         |
| <b>Total</b>                                             | <b>4 270</b>                                   | <b>25 730</b>          | <b>30 000</b> |

## Programme and risk management

37. This country programme document outlines the UNICEF contributions to Bosnia and Herzegovina results. It serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures and the internal controls framework.

38. Main risks for the achievement of expected results relate to governance and accountability; safety and security in light of the fragile political situation; capacity of the country to recover from the May 2014 floods; and to funding and external stakeholder relations due to the shrinking funding for Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mitigation measures include risk-informed planning; maintaining close relationships and partnerships with all levels of governance; establishing permanent multisectoral commissions; diversifying and leveraging funding sources; closely monitoring implementation of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers; preventing wild poliovirus importation in collaboration with government partners and the World Health Organization; and strengthening emergency preparedness and response.

39. The United Nations country team will establish relevant mechanisms to coordinate planning, implementation monitoring and evaluation of the UNDAF. Annual or twice-yearly work plans will be developed together with government partners to operationalize the country programme. When appropriate, the work plans will be developed jointly with other United Nations country team members.

40. UNICEF will continue to consolidate strategic partnerships involving funding with the EU, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Swedish International Development Cooperation and Dubai Cares, among others. Funding opportunities for regional programmes will be explored in coordination with neighbouring countries. UNICEF will mobilize resources for joint United Nations programmes by strengthening partnerships with multi-donor trust funds, bilateral donors and other potential donors. Opportunities for partnerships with the private sector will also be explored.

## Monitoring and evaluation

41. In monitoring progress towards realization of child rights, the country programme will focus on barriers and bottlenecks faced by the most disadvantaged children and families. Technical assistance to strengthen real-time monitoring systems and reporting will be provided to responsible institutions, such as the Council for Children, ministries, the statistics sector and civil society partners.

42. Baselines will be calculated using the 2011/2012 multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS) and other data. Additional assessments related to child poverty and marginalized groups will be conducted to monitor trends in disparities, including in gender. The situation analysis will be regularly updated. A fully costed evaluation plan is available on the UNICEF Executive Board website. Major planned evaluations will cover ECD/ECI, education, social protection and inclusion, and justice for children. The programme will systematically track progress against planned results through mid-year and annual reviews.

43. Results are being documented as part of the Regional Knowledge Management and Leadership Agenda. The findings of independent regional multi-country evaluations will inform programming and policymaking and will contribute to cooperation among countries.

44. UNICEF will continue to strengthen performance, accountability and coherence, as called for by the United Nations General Assembly following the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including through reporting results across agencies. In particular, UNICEF will lead the United Nations Results Group on Social Inclusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## Annex

## Results and resources framework

## Bosnia and Herzegovina -UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2015-2019

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p>Convention on the Rights of the Child, especially articles 2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 39, 40</p> <p><b>National priorities:</b> Strategic Directions for the Development of Preschool Education and Care in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH); Framework Law for Preschool Education and Care; Education Strategy of Republika Srpska (RS) 2010-2014; Law on Preschool Education in RS; Law on Primary Education of RS; Law on Secondary Education of RS; Strategic Directions for the Development of Education with the implementing plan for the period 2008-2015; Framework Law for Primary and Secondary Education in BiH; BiH Disability Policy (2008); RS Juvenile Justice Law; Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) Juvenile Justice Act; RS Law on Social Protection; Strategy for Persons with Disability in FBiH (2011-2015); RS Social Protection Strategy; Brcko District (BD) District Development Strategy and Social Inclusion Strategy, including Action Plan for Children (2008-2017); BiH ECD Framework Policy; ECD Policy in RS; ECD Policy in FBiH; Health Strategy in RS until 2020; Nutrition Policy in FBiH and RS.</p> | <p><b>UNDAF outcomes in volving UNICEF:</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> By 2019, access to justice, non-discrimination and equality under the rule of law is improved</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1:</b> Extent to which targeted legal and policy mechanisms are implemented in accordance with international standards</p> <p>Baseline: 2014 Universal Periodic Review (UPR)</p> <p>Target: Number of 2014 UPR recommendations accepted and implemented by 2019</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.2:</b> Per cent increase in juveniles diverted from formal proceedings</p> <p>Baseline: FBiH and RS: 17 correctional recommendations issued in 2012</p> <p>Target: 50% increase by 2019</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> By 2019, Bosnia and Herzegovina consolidates and strengthens mechanisms for peaceful resolution of conflicts, reconciliation, respect for diversity and community security</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1:</b> Number of children benefiting from armed violence prevention programmes</p> <p>Baseline: 5,000 children (2013)</p> <p>Target: additional 10,000 children (2019)</p> <p><b>Outcome 3:</b> By 2019, there is effective management of war remnants and strengthened prevention and responsiveness for manmade and natural disasters</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.1:</b> Number of policies, strategies and laws that incorporate DRR concepts at municipal, entity and state level</p> <p>Baseline: Two parallel entity non-coordinated platforms for DRR (2013)</p> <p>Target: Six municipalities with developed strategies and plans responding to DRR (2016); coordinated entity and state platform supported by the Ministry of Security BiH (2017)</p> <p><b>Outcome 6:</b> By 2019, better articulated and coordinated evidence-based employment, education and scientific policies and programmes enable greater access to productive employment and income opportunities</p> |
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**Indicator 6.1:** Number of primary and secondary schools that provide entrepreneurial learning opportunities to students

Baseline: 30 primary schools, 50 secondary schools (2013)

Target: 300 primary schools, 200 secondary schools (2019)

**Outcome 7:** By 2019, all children and young people, including children with disabilities (CwD) and Roma children, benefit from education tailored to their needs and abilities

**Indicator 7.1:** Net attendance rate of all children, CwD and Roma children for primary and secondary education

Baseline: BiH: 97.6% primary (97.7% male, 97.6% female); 91.8% secondary (90.4% male, 93.1% female); Roma: 69.3% primary (70.9% male, 67.8% female); 22.6% secondary (26.6% male, 18% female); CwD: 0.4% primary (2007)

Target: BiH: Primary, 100%; secondary, 95%; Roma: primary, 90%; secondary, 50% (2019); CwD: target to be determined in 2014

**Indicator 7.2:** Transition rate to secondary education for children, CwD and Roma children

Baseline: BiH: 96.9%; Roma: 71%; CwD: NA (study to be conducted in 2014)

Target: BiH: 100%; Roma: 90% (2019); CwD: target to be determined in 2014

**Indicator 7.3:** Number of primary and secondary schools where each identified child with disability learns according to an individualized program/curriculum tailored to his/her needs and abilities

Baseline: N/A

Target: At least 30% of schools in BiH (2019)

**Outcome 8:** By 2019, enrolment in preschool education for all children, including Roma children and children with disabilities, is increased

**Indicator 8.1:** Per cent of children enrolled in preschool

Baseline: BiH: 13% (12.2% male, 14% female); Roma: 1.5% (1.4% male, 1.6% female); CwD: N/A (study to be conducted in 2014)

Target: BiH: 30%; Roma: 10%; CwD: 2% (2019)

**Outcome 9:** By 2019, targeted legislation, policies, budget allocations and inclusive social protection systems are strengthened to proactively protect vulnerable children

**Indicator 9.1:** Monitoring systems for social protection that produce desegregated data to address bottlenecks and barriers for the most vulnerable children and families

Baseline: Not in place (2013)

Target: Joint social report developed countrywide annually

**Indicator 9.2:** Social assistance for children and families in need harmonized in FBiH (yes/no)

Baseline: Not harmonized (2013)

Target: Harmonized by 2019

**Indicator 9.3:** Coordination mechanisms for social protection systems established countrywide

Baseline: Not in place (2013)

Target: In place by 2019

**Outcome 10:** By 2019, child protection systems are strengthened to prevent and respond to cases of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect of children, including institutionalization

**Indicator 10.1:** Percentage of municipalities implementing Guidelines on Response System in cases of Violence against Children

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p>Baseline: 7%</p> <p>Target: 40% (2019)</p> <p><b>Indicator 10.2:</b> Prevalence of children in institutions, foster care and adoption</p> <p>Baseline: 2,607 institutionalized; 712 in foster care; 67 adopted (2012, TransMonEE)</p> <p>Target: 40% decrease in number of children in residential care (2019)</p> <p><b>Outcome 11:</b> By 2019, provision of targeted health and public health policies and services, including management of major health risks, and promotion of targeted health seeking behaviours, is enhanced</p> <p><b>Indicator 11.1:</b> Per cent of children, particularly Roma, fully immunized at 18-29 months</p> <p>Baseline: BiH: 68%; Roma: 4% (2011/2012)</p> <p>Target: BiH: 10 percentage point increase; Roma: 20 percentage point increase (2019)</p> <p><b>Indicator 11.2:</b> Number of families with young children receiving young child well-being services including home visits</p> <p>Baseline: 2,500 children</p> <p>Target: 35,000 children (2019)</p> |  |
| <b>Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |

| UNICEF country programme outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | Means of verification | Indicative country programme outputs | Major partners, partnership frameworks | Indicative resources by country programme outcome (millions of US\$) |    |       |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------|
| By 2019, relevant                 | UNDAF indicators: 1.1, 9.1,                    | CRC Committee         | BiH Council for Children             | BiH Ministry of Civil                  | RR                                                                   | OR | Total |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| government institutions are strengthened to <b>monitor child rights</b> , reduce poverty and provide <b>inclusive access to social protection services</b> , including for the most marginalized children, especially Roma children and girls and boys with disabilities | 9.2., 9.3<br><br>Indicator: Percentage of vulnerable children who have access to enhanced inclusive services (e.g. day-care centres for children with disabilities)<br>Baseline: 23% of municipalities offer services<br>Target: 50% of municipalities offer services<br><br>Indicator: Percentage of people who are supportive of inclusion of children with disabilities.<br>Baseline: 41% think CwD should attend special schools (KAP survey 2013)<br>Target: Less than 20% | and UPR<br><br>Knowledge, attitudes, practices (KAP) survey results | systematically monitoring child rights and reporting to relevant international and national institutions<br><br>Network of child rights civil society groups strengthened and able to monitor and report on child rights violations<br><br>Municipal multisectoral SPI commissions established and action plans implemented with a focus on the most vulnerable children and families<br><br>Vulnerable families and children, especially Roma and girls and boys with disabilities, empowered to claim their rights and participate in decision-making processes<br><br>Positive changes seen in behaviour and attitudes towards children with disabilities<br><br>Municipalities have increased capacities to strengthen resilience of children, families, communities and DRR systems | Affairs, BiH Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, BiH Agency for Statistics (and entity statistics), Department for Economic Planning, FBiH Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, FBiH Ministry of Health, RS Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Breko District Department for Health and Other Services, BiH Ministry of Security, RS Ministry of Interior and Civil Protection; FBiH Ministry of Interior and Civil Protection; Federal Institute for Planning, RS Institute for Social Protection, RS Children's Fund, cantons, municipalities, civil society groups, media, European Union delegation to BiH, World Bank, UN country team) | \$1.1 | \$5.8 | \$6.8 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                 |       |       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| By 2019, an increased number of boys and girls use a continuum of <b>child protection services</b> aimed at preventing and adequately responding to violence, neglect and abuse and family separation, and equitable access to justice is strengthened for all children | UNDAF indicators: 1.2, 10.1, 10.2<br><br>Indicator: Percentage of children with disabilities in residential care<br>Baseline: 68%<br>Target: 40%<br><br>Indicator: Number of prosecutors' offices and municipal courts applying child-friendly procedures<br>Baseline: None<br>Target: 7 prosecutor's offices, 5 municipal courts | TransMonEE<br><br>Official government data | Increased public awareness on the need for children without parental care, particularly children with disabilities, to be cared for in a family-based setting<br><br>Improved enabling environment through strengthened cross-sectoral coordination and capacities to design, implement and budget for child-related policies and laws<br><br>Local-level child protection systems better enabled to identify, refer and address cases of violence, abuse and neglect<br><br>Authorities enabled to issue and adequately implement alternative and diversion measures for children in conflict with the law<br><br>Children and their families have increased awareness of different modalities to access the justice system | Same as above, plus police academies                                            | \$1   | \$6.5 | \$7.5  |
| By 2019, an increased number of girls and boys have access to and participate in better quality and <b>inclusive education</b> , including Roma children and                                                                                                            | UNDAF indicators: 6.1, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 8.1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MICS                                       | Expanded availability of preschool services for all children, including for Roma children and boys and girls with disabilities<br><br>Increased awareness of parents, especially the most                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Same as above, plus BiH Agency for Pre-Primary, Primary and Secondary Education | \$1.2 | \$9.5 | \$10.7 |

|                                                                                                                                                                             |                              |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                              |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| boys and girls with disabilities                                                                                                                                            | UNDAF indicators: 11.1, 11.2 | MICS | <p>disadvantaged and excluded, on the importance of early learning and inclusive and intercultural education for all boys and girls</p> <p>Enhanced demand through advocacy for reduced social services fees, demonstration of quality service provision, promotion of outreach and empowerment of rights-holders, especially the most vulnerable families</p> <p>Education institutions have supported schools in developing dropout prevention and response interventions.</p> <p>Dialogue and reform conducted on the quality, relevance and inclusiveness of education, with a particular focus on assessment of learning outcomes, performance and equity gaps in learning.</p> <p>Integrated ECD services mainstreamed and expanded across the country</p> <p>Strengthened systems and capacities for equitable provision of quality and innovative ECD/ECI services especially for the most vulnerable and</p> | Same as above plus RS and FBiH Public Health Institutes, FBiH Agency for Quality and Accreditation in Health | \$1 | \$4 | \$5 |
| By 2019, an increased number of young boys and girls, including hard-to-reach children, Roma children and children with disabilities have access to quality health services |                              |      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                              |     |     |     |

|                 |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |       |        |      |
|-----------------|--|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------|--------|------|
| including IECD  |  |  | <p>excluded children</p> <p>Increased trust in immunization among parents and the public</p> <p>Families with children, especially the most vulnerable, are empowered to access and use IECD and ECI services</p> <p>Increased awareness on adequate nutrition of girls and boys among relevant government partners and parents</p> |  |       |        |      |
| Total resources |  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  | \$4.3 | \$25.8 | \$30 |



## Economic and Social Council

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**For action**

### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**Second regular session 2014**

9-12 September 2014

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*\*

### Country programme document\*\*\*

**Ecuador**

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Ecuador is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval. The Executive Board is requested to approve the aggregate indicative budget of \$3,788,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$13,212,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2015 to 2018.

\* Reissued for technical reasons on 3 September 2014.

\*\* E/ICEF/2014/14.

\*\*\* In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on a draft version that was shared with them 12 weeks before the 2014 second regular session of the Executive Board.



## Programme rationale

1. While considerable strides have been made in reducing inequity, Ecuador, like the other countries in the region, still faces the challenge of inequality and has shown a firm determination to deal with the challenge through equity-oriented policies and programmes.
2. The population of Ecuador in 2014 is estimated at 16 million, with 5.9 million under the age of 18. The Population and Housing Census 2010 shows that 7 per cent of the population is indigenous, 7.2 per cent Afro-Ecuadorian, 7.4 per cent Montubian, 6.1 per cent white, 71.9 per cent mestizo and 0.4 per cent 'other'.
3. Although Ecuador is considered an upper-middle-income country, according to the World Bank (as of December 2013), 25.6 per cent of the population is considered to be in 'income poverty' and 8.6 per cent in extreme poverty. When looking beyond national averages, these indicators worsen for certain areas or populations. For example, income poverty among indigenous and Montubian peoples is 51.1 per cent and 44.2 per cent, respectively, much higher than the national average or the index for whites (14.3 per cent). However, Ecuador is one of the few countries that have managed to improve equity: the Gini coefficient stood at 0.485 as of December 2013, compared to 0.550 in 2007.
4. In terms of multidimensional poverty (which goes beyond measuring poverty only in monetary terms to viewing it from a rights perspective, analysing child deprivation as a result of gaps in access to rights), In its report "Social Panorama of Latin America", published in 2013, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean indicates that, in 2011, 40.7 per cent of the children and adolescents were living in situations of multidimensional poverty and 15.1 per cent in extreme multidimensional poverty. The Government has taken multidimensional poverty and its inter-generational manifestations as the bases for its poverty eradication strategy.
5. Ecuador has made significant progress in fulfilling the rights of children, adolescents and women. With respect to the Millennium Development Goals, the national averages show considerable progress. However, challenges remain regarding malnutrition, neonatal mortality, maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS, as well as the reduction of inequality gaps by ethnicity, income, gender, life cycle, place of residence and disability. For example, the latest data on chronic malnutrition in under-fives shows a prevalence of 25.3 per cent; among indigenous peoples this percentage rises to 42.3 per cent. On the other hand, problems of overweight and obesity have also begun to affect Ecuadorian children reaching 8.6 per cent in under-fives and 29.9 per cent in those aged 5-11. Among adolescents aged 15-19, the rate of overweight and obesity was 26 per cent.
6. According to the National Information System of the National Secretariat for Planning and Development, under-five and infant mortality rates continue to decline (having fallen from 20.4 and 14.7 in 2005 to 13.7 and 10.1 per 1,000 live births, respectively, in 2011). The neonatal mortality rate shows a more moderate decrease, falling from 7.5 to 6.1 per 1,000 live births between 2005 and 2011. In 2013, however, the provinces of Pichincha (the second-most populous) had a rate of 9 per 1,000 live births, while for Loja the figure was 3.8. On the other hand, Cotopaxi (22.4) and Chimborazo (20.7), with significant indigenous populations, recorded the highest rates of under-five mortality. Maternal mortality shows an increase from 41 per 100,000 live births in 2005 to 70.4 in 2011. This is explained in part by an improvement in registration. However, the Amazonian provinces of Sucumbios and Zamora Chinchipe have maternal mortality ratios that are more than double the national average (with 167.3 and 143.3, respectively). Adolescent pregnancy is a contributing factor

in the incidence of maternal mortality. Ecuador has one of the highest rates of adolescent pregnancy in Latin America, as 16.9 per cent of adolescent women aged 15-19 and 0.6 per cent of those aged 12-14 are mothers. The Commitment to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed, signed by Ecuador in 2013, constitutes an opportunity to accelerate the reduction of neonatal and maternal mortality, with a special focus on adolescent girls and an equity perspective.

7. Of the 1.7 million children under 5, only one third attend child development or early education programmes. Support to early childhood development a priority for State policy, and the Ministry of Social Development Coordination and the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion are focused on the national goal of guaranteeing comprehensive development for children under 5, with a multi- and inter-sectoral perspective. Approximately 10 per cent of children under 5 are not registered at birth, although among Afro-Ecuadorians this figure reaches to 30 per cent, according to the Observatory of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (ODNA) in 2010. Additionally, children under 5 are disproportionately represented among children without parental care living in institutions.

8. The net attendance rates for basic education (for 5 to 14 years) and upper-secondary school (for 15 to 17 years) continue to improve. In middle basic schools (for 9 to 11 years) the rate increased from 79.6 per cent in 2010 to 82.9 per cent (84.3 per cent for girls, 81.6 per cent for boys) in 2013, while in upper basic schools (for 12 to 14 years) it increased from 72.2 per cent to 77.3 per cent (79.1 per cent for girls, 75.71 for boys) in the same period. In upper-secondary schools, it increased from 59.4 per cent to 65.8 per cent (65.7 per cent for girls, 65.9 per cent for boys) between 2010 and 2013. Inequalities remain, however, especially in upper-secondary and even more when the information is disaggregated by ethnicity and geographic location. For example, for the Montubian group the net rate of upper-secondary school attendance was 39.4 per cent. In 2013, the rate in the lowest economic quintile was 56 per cent, while it was 80.3 per cent for the wealthiest quintile. In 2013, more than 200,000 children and adolescents aged between 5 and 17 were estimated to be excluded from the education system. In addition, the Situation of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Ecuador by the Observatory on the Rights of Children and Adolescents (based on data from the 2010 census), shows a considerable number of over-age-for-grade children and adolescents in the school system. Also, there were approximately 360,000 child workers aged from 5 to 17 in 2012, representing 8.56 per cent of this age group. It increases to 29 per cent amongst indigenous children, and 56 per cent of all child workers are associated to hazardous activities. Although the highest child labour prevalence occurs amongst adolescents aged 15 to 17, the group aged 5 to 14 represents 58 per cent of all working children.

9. The persistence of social norms and behavioural patterns that contribute to violence, including acceptance of corporal physical punishment as a form of discipline, represents an important barrier to building protective environments that promote overall development of children and adolescents. In schools, some 56 per cent of all sixth grade students have been victims of some episode of violence, and 27 per cent of the children and adolescents aged 6-17 declared having been physically assaulted by teachers. Among those aged 5-17, 44 per cent were subjected to violence and abuse at home. Approximately half of the deaths of adolescents, between 1997 and 2009, were due to accidents, homicides and self-inflicted wounds, including suicides. In 10 provinces in the Sierra and the Amazon areas, the main cause of death was suicide, while it was homicide in Guayas, Esmeraldas and Sucumbios. Adolescents in conflict with the law are provided with custodial and incipient non-custodial measures. According to the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Religion in 2014, 758 adolescents aged 12-18 are detained in 11 specialized centres and another 156 benefit

from alternative measures, mainly in large urban areas. Violence has a gender dimension as well. In general, 6 out of 10 women have been victims of gender-based violence at some point in their lives.

10. Ecuador has reviewed and restructured the National Protection System in order to adopt an intergenerational approach that is inclusive of various population groups. Furthermore, relevant recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child related to ensuring a monitoring mechanism and coordination body with a specific focus on child rights will be addressed at both national and local levels.

11. Ecuador is susceptible to natural disasters (floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis) and other humanitarian situations. There exist capacities and mechanisms for the prevention and mitigation of disasters at both national and local levels, and UNICEF will continue to strengthen strategic capacities for preparation and response to emergencies.

12. Lessons learned from the programme cooperation for 2010 to 2014 include: to close the gaps of inequality and overcome the bottlenecks and barriers impeding the full realization of the rights of children and adolescents, an integrative approach must be adopted that is inter-sectoral, multisectoral and inter-functional, in line with the national planning priorities. To this end, national partners will be able to count on the added value of UNICEF specialized technical assistance and the promotion of exchanges of experiences, knowledge, innovation and horizontal and triangular cooperation in the global and regional networks regarding children and adolescents. Also, in order to achieve the expected results, all sectors of society need to participate and show commitment. To this end, UNICEF will continue supporting partnerships between the public and private sectors, civil society, academia and other actors.

13. This inter-sectoral, multi-sectoral and inter-functional vision is incorporated comprehensively in the country programme, in this way responding to UNICEF's mandate, the agreements established in the UNDAF, and the commitments of the Paris, Accra and Busan instruments on the effectiveness of development cooperation.

14. Both the UNDAF and the country programme of 2015-2018 are intended to be living and dynamic instruments that respond to the country priorities and adjust to changing and emerging situations. In this way, the programme aims to achieve a better alignment with the national planning process and stronger national ownership, while promoting greater coherence, efficiency and optimization of resources.

## **Programme priorities and partnerships**

15. The overall objective of the country programme is to support national efforts oriented to universal fulfilment of the rights of children, adolescents and women and the full development of their capacities. Emphasis will be placed on reducing the disparities and inequities in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and their statutory bodies, the Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, and the National Plan for Good Living. The country programme is aligned with the National Strategy for the Eradication of Poverty, the Agendas for Equality, the Sectoral Social Development Agenda and the various sectoral strategies. It is also aligned with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2015-2018, and responds to key elements of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2014-2017.

16. The UNDAF proposes to contribute to national priorities, such as to increase access and assure attendance and quality in education; reduce maternal and neonatal mortality; improve nutrition; combat child poverty and all forms of violence and discrimination throughout the life cycle, and promote adolescent development and participation. To achieve these goals, with a gender perspective and taking into consideration social and cultural practices, programmes and initiatives will take an equity approach, targeting those living in situations of the greatest vulnerability and their specific generational deprivations (see paragraph 21).

17. Within the UNDAF, the programme focuses particularly on Results Group 2 ("Reduction of inequity gaps for cohesion, inclusion and quality of life"), and contributes to the Direct Outcome/Results Groups 1 and 3 that include, respectively, consolidation of citizen participation to reinforce the guarantees of rights and eradication of all forms of discrimination and violence. From these direct outcome/ results groups, contributions will also be made to complement Outcome 4 related to emergency preparedness and response and risk management, and Outcome 5 related to eradication of child labour and policy dialogue for promotion of socio-educational policies and legislation for socio-economic inclusion of youth and adolescents.

18. With a comprehensive and inter-generational approach, the programme's contribution to eradication of multidimensional child poverty emerges as an overarching goal. Specific attention is paid to three critical issues: (a) reduction of disparities in areas such as maternal-child health with emphasis on neonatal mortality, maternal mortality and malnutrition; (b) access to and adequate services for early childhood care and development; and (c) inclusive education of good quality for all, including preschool-aged children, and access to secondary education for children from the age of 15, where the determining factors for age-for-grade distortion and inequalities between urban and rural populations or among ethnic groups constitute barriers and bottlenecks to be overcome.

19. The programme is structured in four components at the level of outcomes: (a) maternal-child health and nutrition; (b) inclusive education and equity; (c) social inclusion and equality; and (d) protection from all forms of violence, and adolescent development.

20. Expected results will be geared toward: (a) overcoming the barriers to the universal realization of fundamental rights, with a specific focus on the most excluded children and adolescents, as a mechanism for overcoming poverty and discrimination; (b) ensuring equal developmental opportunities to all children and adolescents through effective social inclusion, social protection and participation mechanisms; and (c) changing pertinent social norms and behaviours to generate protective environments and eradicate the causes of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect throughout the life cycle.

21. Strategically the programme aims to contribute towards strengthening of national capacities for the implementation of multi-dimensional and inter-sectoral approaches to guaranteeing realization of child rights, with an emphasis on innovative approaches in those territories with the greatest vulnerability. Supporting national equity policies and efforts, specific groups of children and adolescents will be prioritized, such as those living in peri-urban barrios and remote rural areas, the indigenous boys and girls living in the Sierra and Amazonian regions, the Afro-Ecuadorian and indigenous in the Coast and Northern Border areas, and children with disabilities. A special focus will be on children and adolescents, particularly girls, in the case of specific vulnerabilities such as sexual abuse, gender-based violence or exploitation.

22. There are four programme components, described below.

### **Mother-infant health and nutrition**

23. In the framework of the Commitment to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed, this will give priority to efforts toward reducing neonatal and maternal mortality, and eradicating chronic malnutrition, especially among the indigenous peoples with the highest incidence of chronic malnutrition and infant and maternal mortality. The main bottlenecks to be addressed are: (a) insufficient quality and cultural relevance of health services for infant and maternal mortality, including gender- and age-sensitive programmes, and (b) the deficient quality of diets, in the case of malnutrition. Therefore, the programme will contribute mainly to strengthening capacities of health workers and promotion of breastfeeding and quality complementary feeding, particularly for children under 2. This will include the use of communication for development strategies and education to change harmful behaviour and practices. Similarly, overweight and obesity will be addressed through awareness-raising and promotion of healthy nutritional practices. In this regard the programme will support national multisectoral policies and an adolescent-friendly approach in health policies and services, for instance, those focused on preventing adolescent pregnancy.

### **Inclusive education and equity**

24. Under the framework of the global strategy of Education for All and the regional strategy on Educative Goals 2021, this will contribute to the re-orientation of educational services and exchange of experiences and good practices to improve the quality of national education and increase opportunities for access and retention, in the national framework of the Organic Law on Intercultural Education. It will also contribute to the following goals: (a) identify and design extracurricular activities to help reinforce learning results in the classroom and other educational spaces; (b) develop learning and advocacy materials that link school to the family and promote beneficial changes in socio-cultural patterns to enable the overall development of children and adolescents; and (c) develop capacities in the areas of human rights and gender equality among education personnel. Specific strategies will be adopted to target out-of-school adolescents through policy dialogue and advocacy, focusing on those excluded from the education system, such as adolescent parents and young workers, and also adolescents who are at risk of exclusion for performance underachievement.

25. In the area of comprehensive early childhood development, the programme will support governmental actions to adopt inter-sectoral models, methods and tools for effective management of early childhood development, especially regarding follow-up and monitoring; preparation of quality standards for services; training through innovative modalities; and greater use of technology and mass communication media.

### **Social inclusion and equality**

26. This component and its contribution to eradication of multidimensional child poverty will support national policies, agendas and strategies in matters of inter-generational equality, eradication of poverty, and social protection. It will advocate greater public spending at both national and local levels, as well as specific emphasis on children and adolescents, especially the marginalized. Special attention will be paid to following up on the recommendations related to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including advocacy for ratification of its third Optional Protocol, and that of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The

component also will contribute towards generation, analysis and use of disaggregated data, including by sex, on social inclusion, multidimensional child poverty and discrimination, to advocate for the "Good Living" of children and adolescents, with an equity approach. Support will be provided for national efforts to guarantee a multisectoral and adolescent-friendly approach in policies and services. Specific strategies related to promoting adolescent social inclusion will include creation of opportunities for their participation in dialogue and decision-making processes related to the realization of their rights and policy priorities, such as education, health, culture, leisure, sports, and information and communication technologies.

#### **Protection from violence, and adolescent development**

27. This component will support national policies oriented to preventing and eradicating all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation of children and adolescents. The programmatic strategies will focus on strengthening the national systems, mechanisms and capacities for generating protective environments for children and adolescents. It will also devote efforts to an effective and multisectoral management of addressing violence throughout the life cycle in a comprehensive manner that is sensitive to gender, age and culture. The central approach of the protection element will be the change of socio-cultural patterns and other barriers that promote and reproduce violence. Special attention will be paid to adolescent development, since most rights violations related to violence disproportionately affect adolescents and their overall development. The different forms of violence will be addressed holistically, in accordance with the constitutional precepts and the guidelines deriving from the National Plan for Good Living and the UNDAF.

28. Specific protection strategies related to adolescents will include: (a) follow-up and support of current normative and institutional changes within the juvenile justice system, particularly those related to implementation and monitoring of alternative custodial measures; (b) generate knowledge and awareness regarding violent deaths of adolescents, such as homicides, suicides and accidents, advocating for an age-specific and multisectoral approach to policies aimed at reducing violent deaths.

29. Elements related to emergency preparedness and response and disaster risk reduction will be integrated into each of the four programme components with innovative modalities of institutionalization and standardization, awareness-raising, formal and non-formal learning, promoting multisectoral and inter-agency partnerships, and the participation of children and adolescents.

#### **Cross-sectoral**

30. This will support all activities related to programme management, including support and technical assistance for the four programmatic components in areas such as communication for development, monitoring and evaluation, and social and resource mobilization for child rights.

#### **Strategies**

31. In general, the programme and its strategies are an interdependent and interrelated set of efforts aligned with national priorities and approaches, the UNDAF and the UNICEF

Strategic Plan. By favouring a multisectoral and inter-sectoral approach over a sectoral one, the programme is conceived as an integrated whole, and not as isolated components.

32. Given the programme's scope and resources, the interventions under the four programmatic components seek to influence actions at both national and subnational levels, with an emphasis on equity and the areas and specific groups in situations of high risk and vulnerability.

33. The set of strategies applied by the country programme will ensure a human rights-based approach and gender equality perspective and include: (a) development of human talent in aspects of institutional management that call for implementation of comprehensive and inter-sectoral interventions at the national and subnational levels for reduction of gaps in income and other measures of inequality. Through capacity development, the programme aims to contribute – at the levels of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole – towards construction and development of environments protective of child rights, and design and implementation of mechanisms for promoting the resilience of adolescents in these environments, facilitating the construction of their future life plans. (b) generation of knowledge and evidence for advocacy and policy dialogue in support of the design of public policies, implementation of strategies and decision-making based on up-to-date data and other reliable information, and identification of and follow-up on the barriers and bottlenecks impeding the guarantee of child and adolescent rights; (c) promotion of public, private and inter-agency partnerships to strengthen collaboration, inter-sectoral and cross-cutting integration among different social actors, as well as promotion of centres of excellence, in order to facilitate monitoring and analysis of trends in the exercise of rights, Corporate Social Responsibility and mobilization of support and resources in favour of the rights of children and adolescents; (d) South-South and triangular cooperation in order to promote learning and the facilitation and exchange of good practices; and (e) Communication for Development, which is a fundamental strategy to facilitate inter-generational dialogue and to contribute toward changing socio-cultural patterns associated with violence and other behaviours impacting the realization of the rights of children and adolescents.

34. Other key strategies are the identification and promotion of innovations in programming, as well as of integration and inter-sectoral links to support the holistic approach.

#### Summary budget table

| <i>Programme component</i>                           | <i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i> |                        |               |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
|                                                      | <i>Regular resources</i>                       | <i>Other resources</i> | <i>Total</i>  |
| Maternal-infant health and nutrition                 | 841                                            | 1 650                  | 2 491         |
| Inclusive education                                  | 723                                            | 3 200                  | 3 923         |
| Social inclusion and equality                        | 775                                            | 2 400                  | 3 175         |
| Protection from violence, and adolescent development | 1 045                                          | 2 662                  | 3 707         |
| Cross-sectoral                                       | 404                                            | 3 300                  | 3 704         |
| <b>Total</b>                                         | <b>3 788</b>                                   | <b>13 212</b>          | <b>17 000</b> |

## Programme and risk management

35. Management of the programme is results-based, in accordance with the corresponding government emphasis, as stipulated in the UNDAF. Its approach facilitates inter-agency coordination through the mechanism of UNDAF Results Groups for planning and programming, integration of sectors and activities, and participatory planning processes between the Government and multilateral cooperation actors of the United Nations System. On the Government side, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Technical Secretariat for International Cooperation, the National Development Planning Secretariat, the Ministry of Social Development Coordination and various line ministries will be the key partners in the planning and management processes. This arrangement will ensure a full alignment with national priorities and challenges, as requested by Member States in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

36. The integration and rationalization of resources will be further supported by the use of common services such as the United Nations House, and UNICEF will continue to use the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) as the mechanism for management of programme financial resources.

37. In accordance with the UNDAF results groups modality, all programmatic components are expected to have a very close articulation among responsible and contributing United Nations agencies within the various results/direct effects groups. For example, UNICEF will coordinate closely with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Food Programme (WFP) in early childhood, especially regarding maternal and neonatal mortality and the eradication of malnutrition. UNICEF will work with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ensure effective coordination of gender-specific elements of the programme and also to ensure that a gender-sensitive approach is applied. On the Northern Border, UNICEF will continue to work within the framework of the inter-agency programme with UNHCR, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), PAHO, UNFPA and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). With UNDP, UNESCO and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR), UNICEF will work in the areas of rights, cultural identity and bilingual inter-cultural education of the indigenous peoples. HIV/AIDS issues will be coordinated together with PAHO, UNFPA and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

38. UNICEF will prioritize local fundraising through individual donors, which it will complement with approaches to external donors. Corporate Social Responsibility will be promoted from the perspective of co-responsibility, with the purpose of orienting individual commitment and resources towards investment in policies for children and adolescents, and of generating and implementing practices that promote the rights of children and adolescents in the country, and regionally and globally.

39. The identification of areas for multi-country and/or subregional collaboration will be explored for bringing additional resources to the programme and fostering South-South, horizontal and triangular cooperation.

40. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of

managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

## **Monitoring and evaluation**

41. Systematic analysis and monitoring of the rights of children is an integrated and essential element of the country programme. It will be carried out in close collaboration with the existing structures and institutions, such as the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC), the National Secretariat of Planning and Development (SENPLADES), and centres of excellence. Findings from situation analyses and monitoring will generate inputs for action and dialogue to support the design of policies, as well as develop capacities for observance of rights at the subnational and territorial levels.

42. Permanent and systematic monitoring of the situation of children, the evolution of inequality gaps, and bottlenecks and barriers impeding the full exercise of the rights of children and adolescents will be key aspects in the monitoring and evaluation approach. In the framework of the Monitoring Results for Equity System (MoRES), UNICEF will collaborate with the national statistics systems in order to improve the generation of quality and disaggregated data to inform, among other areas, determinant analysis in each of the key areas of support in this programme.

43. As a result of the lessons learned from review exercises, particular attention will be placed on the definition of indicators, baselines and goals for following the progress and results of the interventions established for the programme. Also, follow-up and collaboration in the development of national capacities for following up on the recommendations, both of the Universal Periodic Review and the Committee on the Rights of the Child will be implemented.

44. The Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and annual planning will serve to identify the mechanisms and instruments, studies, surveys and evaluations to be carried out and will be in line with the UNDAF. Together with the Inter-agency Monitoring and Evaluation group, UNICEF will monitor the UNDAF and its results, including the contribution of UNICEF to them. In addition, UNICEF will contribute to strengthening the inter-agency work on national monitoring and evaluation. Two major evaluations are planned: one on the country programme, 2015-2018, and the other on national interventions to reduce violence against children and adolescents.

45. In close collaboration with the Technical Secretariat for International Cooperation, SENPLADES and the Ministry for Social Development Coordination, regular reviews of the programme will be carried out in order to identify progress and constraints and introduce any necessary adjustments.

## Annex

## Results and resources framework

## Ecuador-UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2015-2018

| Component 1. Maternal-infant health and nutrition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                         |                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <p><b>Relevant articles in the Convention on the Rights of the Child:</b> 3, 6, 24, 25.</p> <p><b>National priority:</b> National Plan For Good Living. <b>Objective 3:</b> Guarantee the quality of life of the population.</p> <p><b>Millennium Development Goals:</b> 1: Eradicate poverty and hunger. 4: Reduce child mortality. 5: Improve maternal health.</p> <p><b>UNDAF results associated with UNICEF: Direct Effect #2:</b> By 2018, (the United Nations) has contributed to strengthening the national and local institutional capacities within their competencies and those of the citizenry, in accordance with the guidelines for the involved sectors, to reduce the inequality gaps in the enjoyment of the rights to health, education, habitat and housing, water and sanitation, food, a healthy environment and comprehensive social protection.</p> <p><b>Results indicators that measure change and include UNICEF contribution:</b> 1. Number of public policy instruments developed and/or implemented at the national and local level in the framework of their territorial circumscription and sphere of competence that contribute to the State's institutional strategies to reduce the inequality gaps, in accordance with the Sectoral Social Development Agenda.</p> |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                         |                               |
| <b>Results Related to the UNICEF Strategic Plan:</b> Outcome 1, output: b. Outcome 4, outputs: a and c                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                         |                               |
| UNICEF results (outcomes)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Key progress indicators, baselines and goals                                                                                                           | Means of verification                                                             | Indicative outputs of the country programme                                                                             | Main associates, partnership frameworks                                                                                              | Indicative resources by country programme result (in millions of US\$):<br>Regular resources (RR);<br>Other resources (OR) <sup>1</sup> |                               |
| By end-2018, children, adolescents and mothers, especially in the territories in situations of greatest vulnerability, enjoy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Percentage of live births attended by a skilled health personnel<br>Baseline: TBD<br>Goal: TBD<br><br>Percentage of women attended at least four times | INEC – National Health and Nutrition Survey<br><br>INEC – Statistical Yearbook on | By 2018, families have increased knowledge and exercise practices to improve the nutrition of children and adolescents. | Ministry of Public Health,<br>Ministry of Social Development<br>Coordination,<br>Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion,<br>PAHO. | RR<br>0.8                                                                                                                               | OR<br>1.7<br><br>Total<br>2.5 |

1.

Figures are rounded to the nearest tenth.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                     |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                 |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| greater opportunities and equality in the use of high-impact maternal and child health interventions and use of nutritional support and improved nutrition and care practices for children and adolescents. | during their pregnancy by any provider (skilled or unskilled) for reasons related to the pregnancy<br>Baseline: TBD<br>Goal: TBD<br><br>Exclusive breastfeeding rate among children 0-5 months old<br>Baseline: 43.8 per cent (2012)<br>Goal: 64 per cent (2018) | Vital Statistics, Births and Deaths | By 2018, the institutions have more evidence for reduction of maternal and child mortality, with rights and gender approaches | Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Social Development Coordination, PAHO, UNFPA. |            |            |
| <b>Total: Maternal-infant health and nutrition component</b>                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                     |                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                 |            |            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                     |                                                                                                                               | <b>0.8</b>                                                                                                                      | <b>1.7</b> | <b>2.5</b> |

### Component 2. Inclusive education and equity

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                     |                              |                                                    |                                                |                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child:</b> 28, 29 and 32.<br><b>National priority: National Plan for Good Living. Objective 2:</b> Promote equality, cohesion, inclusion and social and territorial equity, amid diversity.<br><b>Millennium Development Goals:</b> 2: Achieve universal basic education.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                     |                              |                                                    |                                                |                                                         |
| <b>UNDAF results associated with UNICEF: Direct effect #2:</b> By 2018, the Programme has contributed to the strengthening of national and local capacities, within their competencies and those of the citizenry, according to the guidelines of the involved sectors to reduce the inequity gaps in the enjoyment of the rights to health, education, habitat and housing, water and sanitation,, food, a healthy environment and comprehensive social protection.<br><b>Results indicators that measure change and include UNICEF contribution:</b> 1. Number of public policy instruments developed and/or implemented at the national and local level, and in their territorial jurisdiction and scope of competence, that contribute to the State's institutional strategies for the reduction of inequity gaps, in accordance with the Sectoral Social Development Agenda. |                                                     |                              |                                                    |                                                |                                                         |
| <b>Results related to the UNICEF Strategic Plan:</b> Outcome 5, outputs: a, b and c.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                     |                              |                                                    |                                                |                                                         |
| <i>UNICEF results</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Key progress indicators, baselines and goals</i> | <i>Means of verification</i> | <i>Indicative outputs of the country programme</i> | <i>Main associates, partnership frameworks</i> | <i>Indicative resources by country programme result</i> |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                        |           |           |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| By end-2018, children and adolescents – with special emphasis on those in the most vulnerable zones – enjoy greater opportunities for the exercise of their rights to education with quality, relevance and good treatment of students. | <p>Rate of attendance in middle basic education (ages 9-11) and upper basic education (ages 12-14)</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle basic: 83.29 per cent (2012)</li> <li>Upper basic: 74.5 per cent (2012)</li> </ul> <p>Goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle basic: 95 per cent (2018)</li> <li>Upper basic: 95 per cent (2018)</li> </ul> <p>Net upper-secondary attendance rate</p> <p>Baseline: 63.9 (2012)</p> <p>Goal: 80 per cent (2018)</p> <p>Net upper-secondary attendance rate among children in the poorest economic quintile</p> <p>Baseline: 53.8 per cent (2012)</p> <p>Goal: TBD</p> | INEC – National Survey of Employment and Under-employment | By end-2018, public institutions provides improved services related to comprehensive child development based on innovative management methodologies by 2018.                                          | Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development, Coordination, UNESCO | RR<br>0.7 | OR<br>3.2 | Total<br>3.9 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           | By end-2018, the institutions, families and other actors have capacities, evidence and exchange of experiences for inclusion, retention, quality, gender sensitivity and good treatment in education. | Ministry of Knowledge and Human Talent Coordination, Ministry of Education                                             |           |           |              |
| <b>Total: Inclusive education and equity component</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                        |           |           |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                        | 0.7       | 3.2       | 3.9          |

### Component 3: Social inclusion and equality

Relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: 2, 3, 4, 26.  
 National priority: National Plan for Good Living. Objective 2: Foster equality, cohesion, inclusion and social and territorial equity, amid diversity.  
 Millennium Development Goals: 1: Eradicate poverty and hunger.

**UNDAF results associated with UNICEF: Direct effect #2:** By 2018, the Programme has contributed to strengthening national and local institutional capacities, within its competencies and those of the citizenry, according to the guidelines of the involved sectors, to reduce the inequity gaps in the enjoyment of the rights to health, education, habitat and housing, water and sanitation, food, a healthy environment and comprehensive social protection.

**Results indicators that measure the change and include UNICEF contribution:** 1. Number of public policy instruments developed and/or implemented at the national and local level within their territorial jurisdiction and sphere of competency, which contribute to the State's institutional strategies for reducing the inequity gaps, in accordance with the Social Sectorial Development Agenda.

**Results related to the UNICEF Strategic Plan: Outcome 7, outputs: b and c**

| <i>UNICEF results</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>Key progress indicators, baselines and goals</i>                                   | <i>Means of verification</i>                                                                                          | <i>Indicative outputs of the country programme</i>                                                                                                                                                               | <i>Main associates, partnership frameworks</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Indicative resources by country programme result</i> |                  |                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| By end-2018, boys and girls and adolescents, especially those in situations of the greatest vulnerability, enjoy greater opportunities, social inclusion and quality in the exercise of their rights without gender discrimination through an improved policy environment and systems, guided by improved knowledge and data. | Number of children covered by social protection systems<br>Baseline: TBD<br>Goal: TBD | INEC – National Survey of Employment, Unemployment and Under-employment<br><br>Social Budget Monitoring Publications. | By end-2018, Ecuador has improved information, technical exchanges and evidence related to social protection and the reduction of poverty, especially multidimensional child poverty, with a gender perspective. | National Secretariat of Planning and Development, Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Social Development Coordination, Technical Secretariat for the Eradication of Poverty, INEC, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Ecuador Social Observatory Foundation | <b>RR</b><br>0.8                                        | <b>OR</b><br>2.4 | <b>Total</b><br>3.2 |
| <b>Total: Social inclusion and equality component</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>0.8</b>                                              | <b>2.4</b>       | <b>3.2</b>          |

| Component 4. Protection from violence, and Adolescent development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <p>Relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: 3, 12, 19, 27, 31, 32, 37 and 40.</p> <p>National priority: National Plan for Good Living. Objective 2: Foster equality, cohesion, inclusion and social and geographic equity, amid diversity.</p> <p>Objective 4: Strengthen the capacities and potentialities of the citizenry.</p> <p>Objective 6: Consolidate the transformation of justice and strengthen comprehensive security, with strict respect for human rights.</p> <p>Millennium Development Goals: 1: Eradicate poverty and hunger. 3: Promote equality between the sexes and the empowerment of women. 5. Improve maternal health.</p> <p>UNDAF results associated with UNICEF: Direct effect #3: By 2018, the Programme has contributed to strengthening institutional and citizen capacities to promote gender equality and the eradication of all forms of discrimination and violence based on gender, ethnicity, disability, age and human mobility situation. Results indicators that measure change and include UNICEF contribution: 2. Number of public institutions at the national and local level that, within their competencies, implement comprehensive strategies based on constitutional and international standards, for changes in knowledge, attitudes and practices that reproduce violence and discrimination.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                  |                           |
| Results related to the UNICEF Strategic Plan: Outcome 6, outputs a, b and c.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                  |                           |
| UNICEF results                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Key Progress Indicators, baselines and goals                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Means of verification                                                                                      | Indicative outputs of the country programme                                                                                                                                                                     | Main associates, partnership frameworks                                                                                                                                                                               | Indicative resources by country programme result |                           |
| By end-2018 adolescents and children benefit from changes of socio-cultural patterns, protective environments, and multi-sectoral policies that integrate a comprehensive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Percentage of children and adolescents aged 5-17 receiving violent or punishing treatment from their teachers.<br>Baseline: 30 per cent (2010) (33 per cent for boys, 28 for girls); 27 per cent (2004); 20 per cent (2000).<br>Goal: reverse a rising tendency | ODNA – Survey by the Social Observatory of Ecuador<br>Sectorial reports<br>Governmental policies developed | By end 2018, Ecuador has strengthened channels and spaces for adolescent participation and has improved adolescent development policies, including friendly services with specific focus on violence prevention | Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion,<br>Ministry of Social Development<br>Coordination,<br>Ministry of Justice,<br>Ministry of Labour,<br>Legislative branch,<br>Judiciary branch,<br>UNFPA, UN-Women,<br>OHCHR | RR<br>1.0                                        | OR<br>2.7<br>Total<br>3.7 |

|                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                             |     |     |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| approach to adolescent development, participation and protection from violence, including gender-based violence. | <p>Percentage of children and adolescents between 5 and 17 receiving violent treatment from their parents.<br/>Baseline: 44 per cent (2010) (45 per cent for boys, 42 per cent for girls); 44 per cent (2004); 35 per cent (2000).<br/>Goal: reverse the rising tendency</p> <p>Violent deaths in adolescents and their causes incorporated into the public agenda<br/>Baseline: No<br/>Goal: Yes</p> <p>Percentage of children 5-14 involved in child labour<br/>Baseline: 3.2 per cent (2012)<br/>Goal: 0 per cent (2018)</p> | Information systems<br>Sectorial reports<br><br>INEC – National Survey on Employment, Unemployment and Under-Employment | By 2018, policymakers, justice actors, social organizations, communities and families are equipped with knowledge, capacities, systems and mechanisms to provide protective environments for children and adolescents, with a gender perspective. | Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, Ministry of Social Development Coordination, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour, Legislative Branch, UNFPA, UN-Women, OHCHR | 1.0 | 2.7 | 3.7 |
| <b>Total: Protection from violence, and adolescent development component</b>                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                             |     |     |     |



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**For action**

### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**Second regular session 2014**

9-12 September 2014

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

### Country programme document\*\*

#### Guatemala

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Guatemala is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval. The Executive Board is requested to approve the aggregate indicative budget of \$5,770,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$40,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2015 to 2019.

\* E/ICEF/2014/14.

\*\* In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on a draft version that was shared with them 12 weeks before the 2014 second regular session of the Executive Board.



## Programme rationale

1. Guatemala has an estimated population of 15.8 million,<sup>1</sup> 48 per cent of whom are children. Forty per cent of inhabitants identify themselves as belonging to one of three main minority population groups covering 22 linguistic communities, although it is generally accepted that this number is underreported. The country has made progress in several areas, such as reducing infant and child mortality, increasing primary education completion rates, keeping HIV prevalence at bay, and improving access to improved drinking water and sanitation facilities. In addition, key legislation to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation was approved in recent years, during which the capacity of public institutions and civil society were strengthened and inter-institutional coordination was enhanced. However, inequity, discrimination, violence, exclusion from education and chronic malnutrition persist, representing significant challenges to achieving social inclusion and fulfilling children's rights.

2. Annual public investment targeting children increased from \$167 to \$238 per child between 2009 and 2013. However, allocations for children are only around 20 per cent of the national budget, which is, overall, very small. In 2013, the national budget was 15.7 per cent of Gross National Product (GNP), the lowest in Latin America, where the regional average was 32.5 per cent of GNP.<sup>2</sup> Further analysis demonstrates the dire situation of public spending for adolescents, which represents only 1.7 per cent of GNP – or \$0.54 per adolescent per day in 2013.

3. In 2010, the Committee on the Rights of the Child highlighted the country's weak implementation of the Comprehensive Protection System and high levels of malnutrition among children. It also cited the need to (a) develop comprehensive strategies to eliminate all forms of discrimination; (b) reduce poverty among children and increase expenditures targeting them; (c) de-institutionalize children in residential care; (d) reform law and practices regarding the juvenile justice system; and (e) improve birth registration coverage, particularly in rural areas. In response, Guatemala has made political commitments to reduce chronic malnutrition and strengthen child protection mechanisms at regional and municipal levels, with support from UNICEF. Challenges remain in the areas of child poverty, financial investment, juvenile justice and de-institutionalization. And the lack of reliable, disaggregated data on birth registration hinders the development of targeted interventions to raise coverage.

4. In 2006 the multidimensional poverty rate of children (poverty viewed from a rights perspective that analyses child deprivation beyond monetary poverty) was 79.7 per cent,<sup>3</sup> the second highest in all of the Latin America and Caribbean region. According to 2011 data, 4.6 million children and adolescents, or 62.2 per cent, were living in monetary poverty; among children in rural areas that rate was 76.1 per cent, and 79.1 per cent among indigenous children<sup>4</sup>

5. Chronic malnutrition affects 49.8 per cent of children under 5 – the sixth highest rate in the world.<sup>5</sup> Inequities are evident among indigenous children (66 per cent) versus non-indigenous children (36.2 per cent), as well as among children living in rural (58 per cent)

<sup>1</sup> Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (National Statistics Institute), 2013.

<sup>2</sup> ¡Contamos! (series of publications) 7 and 12, UNICEF/ICEFI 2011 and 2012.

<sup>3</sup> La Comisión Económica para América Latina (CEPAL)/UNICEF, 2010.

<sup>4</sup> National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), 2011.

<sup>5</sup> Demographic and Health Survey, 2008/9.

versus urban (34.3 per cent) areas. Among children whose mothers had no education, chronic malnutrition rates were 69.3 per cent, whereas for children whose mothers had higher education, it was only 14.1 per cent. Among the poorest quintile, malnutrition impacted 70.2 per cent of children, compared to 14.1 per cent in the richest quintile.<sup>5</sup> In spite of recent progress, approximately 3.9 million people still lack access to an adequate water source and 7 million – largely rural populations living in poverty – lack adequate sanitation<sup>6</sup>

6. After primary school enrolment rose to a high of 98.3 per cent in 2009, it dropped to 88.6 per cent by 2013,<sup>7</sup> due in large part to a change in government-sponsored conditional cash transfers. Primary school children reaching sixth grade has increased consistently, reaching 87.4 per cent in 2013, but only 33.5 per cent of them achieved this at the official age. No significant progress was made in preschool net enrolment (41 per cent in 2001 and 45 per cent in 2012).<sup>7</sup> Access to secondary education rose from 29 to 43 per cent between 2001 and 2012, but more than half of all children remain excluded from timely access, the highest rate in the Central America. A key bottleneck is the insufficient number of public secondary schools across the country, which account for 42.6 per cent of all schools.

7. At national level, there is no major gap between girls' and boys' net enrolment and completion rates for primary education, but there is a notable disadvantage for girls to continue to secondary education, where 54 per cent of students are boys.<sup>7</sup> In regions with a high proportion of indigenous populations, the gap in enrolment between girls and boys widens with every grade.

8. Between 1990 and 2012, the under-five mortality rate fell from 80.4 to 32 per 1,000 live births. During the same period, infant mortality dropped from 59.5 to 27 per 1,000 live births.<sup>8</sup>

9. The maternal mortality rate in Guatemala is 140 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births – far from the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) of 55 per 100,000.<sup>8</sup> Maternal mortality in the north-western and northern regions, where over 70 per cent of inhabitants are indigenous, exceeds 200 per 100,000 live births, compared to 58 in metropolitan regions.<sup>9</sup> Nationally, 51 per cent of women give birth in the presence of a skilled health worker, a level that drops to 30 per cent among indigenous women.<sup>9</sup> The limited availability of skilled health workers, limited access to quality, user-friendly services for mothers, long distances to adequately equipped health facilities, and persisting cultural practices to give birth at home are the main factors impacting maternal mortality.

10. HIV prevalence among the general population in Guatemala is 0.7 per cent.<sup>10</sup> Poor access to antenatal care, resistance to HIV testing and a scarcity of test kits are among the reasons why Guatemala has the highest rate of vertical transmission in Latin America: 15 per cent of children born to mothers diagnosed as HIV-positive in 2013 are infected. Only 350 of the estimated 5,000 HIV-positive children under-15 receive treatment.<sup>11</sup> The main barriers to treatment include the limited number of health facilities providing paediatric HIV treatment, the economic burden of seeking treatment, and fear of stigma. There is no social protection programme to support this group of children. Regarding awareness of HIV

<sup>6</sup> National Survey of Living Conditions (ENCOVI), 2011.

<sup>7</sup> *Anuario estadístico del Ministerio de Educación*, 2012.

<sup>8</sup> The State of the World's Children, UNICEF, 2014.

<sup>9</sup> Demographic and Health Survey, 2008/9 (this is the first hand source).

<sup>10</sup> AIDS Info, [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org) (2012 estimations exercise).

<sup>11</sup> UNGASS, 2012.

transmission, only 25.4 per cent of men and 20.3 per cent of women between 15 and 19 years of age have comprehensive knowledge.<sup>12</sup> The figure is even lower among the indigenous, uneducated and lowest income population groups.

11. High rates of violence severely impact children. In 2013, 14.5 people per day suffered a violent death – 9.2 per cent of whom were under 18.<sup>13</sup> Violent deaths decreased slightly between 2010 and 2012, but the trend reversed in 2013. Guatemala has the fifth highest homicide rate in the world,<sup>14</sup> a reflection of the country's general tolerance of violence as well as its lack of prevention programmes, educational and vocational training opportunities and meaningful employment options for adolescents. Murders orphan approximately 40 children per day.<sup>15</sup> Impunity remains a problem, but there has been improvement recently; 24 per cent of crimes against children resulted in a sentence for the perpetrator(s) in 2013,<sup>15</sup> compared to 4 per cent in 2010.<sup>16</sup>

12. The Judiciary noted 3,096 cases of domestic violence against children between January and September 2013. Additionally, 12 daily cases of sexual violence against children were registered separately from other types of violence, such as trafficking for illegal adoption or sexual exploitation, and abduction. Although no statistics are available, the migration of unaccompanied children out of the country has also become a serious issue. Children crossing borders illegally are exposed to multiple risks of abuse, exploitation and violence.

13. In 2013, Guatemala had 5,474 institutionalized children (1,925 in public institutions and 3,549 in private ones) and only 35 per cent have a court order to be placed in residential care for protection purposes.<sup>17</sup> The main reasons for placing children in residential care are family conflict, negligence, sexual abuse in the home, domestic violence, drug addiction and poverty.

14. Teen pregnancy is a serious violation of child rights, resulting in health hazards for mother and child, as well as social exclusion. In Guatemala, the legal age of marriage is 14 years for girls and 16 for boys. An alarmingly high number of girls aged 10-14 years give birth, equalling 4,354 in 2013 (all considered rape by law).<sup>18</sup> A report from the Public Prosecutor's Office demonstrates that over 80 per cent of cases of sexual aggression against girls under 14 are committed by a family member. In 2013, there were 63,412 births registered among mothers aged 10-19 years. United Nations agencies supported the development of a National Plan for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy. Persisting impunity, combined with tolerance to sexual abuse against young girls are critical causal factors for these challenges.

15. The country's vulnerability to natural disasters – especially during the rainy season – are exacerbated by climate change. According to the assessment by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the combined losses caused by Tropical Storm Agatha in May 2010 and the subsequent eruption of the Pacaya volcano

<sup>12</sup> Demographic and Health Survey, 2008/9.

<sup>13</sup> National Institute of Forensic Sciences (INACIF), 2013.

<sup>14</sup> The Global Study on Homicide 2013, UNODC, 2014.

<sup>15</sup> Attorney General's Office, 2014.

<sup>16</sup> The International Commission on Impunity in Guatemala, 2011.

<sup>17</sup> National Adoption Council, 2013.

<sup>18</sup> Observatory of Reproductive Health, Birth Registration by maternal age, General Health Information System (SIGSA), 2013.

totalled \$982 million. In 2012, a 7.2-earthquake resulted in estimated losses of \$128 million.

16. An education bottleneck analysis introduced in 2012 has allowed key partners to systematically analyse existing issues and explore innovative approaches to resolve them. In order to reduce repetition and drop-out rates among first graders, the Ministry of Education focused on enhancing the teachers' capacity to teach literacy, raising parental engagement, and strengthening local monitoring. These interventions led to a 13.1 per cent decrease in the failure rate among first graders within 18 months. Encouraged by this result, the Ministry institutionalized the bottleneck analysis approach and is applying it to expand access to preschool and secondary school. The success also leveraged resources of other partners, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IaDB) and the United States Agency for International Development, to invest in strategies to decrease the repetition and drop-out rate among school children. A bottleneck analysis was also applied to identify key interventions to reduce chronic malnutrition, focusing on prenatal control, breastfeeding, and complementary feeding practices. The findings led the Ministry of Health and the Secretariat for Food and Nutrition Security to launch a new Communication for Development strategy to generate key behavioural changes at community level, which has been expanded to 58 per cent of the municipalities in the country.

17. UNICEF contributed to establishing child protection mechanisms in 80 municipalities and 10 regions since 2011. Consisting of an office at municipal level that connects people to State child protection institutions, this mechanism is designed to overcome language barriers, lack of knowledge of official reporting procedures, and weak coordination within and among public institutions. In 2013, over 4,000 cases were reported to such municipal protection mechanism, the majority of which would have gone unreported. To address the deficiency of intra-institutional coordination, UNICEF also helped build capacity of public institutions at regional level and strengthened strategic collaboration between regional and municipal levels on child protection. Expanding these municipal protection mechanisms is a priority for the coming years.

### **Programme priorities and partnerships**

18. The country programme has four priority components: social inclusion, child and adolescent protection, education, and nutrition supported by health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions. The overall goal of the programme is to contribute to national efforts to realize the rights of children and adolescents by using the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 Agenda and relevant development documents, such as K'atun 2032 (Guatemala national development plan). It also seeks to progressively reduce disparities and inequities, with particular attention to indigenous children. The programme remains aligned with national priorities, which through 2015 are based upon three pacts: the Zero Hunger; Security, Justice and Peace; and Fiscal and Competitiveness pacts. The programme is a part of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in the areas of sustainable development, social development, safe and secure society, justice for all, and multicultural and diverse society, with particular emphasis on children, women, and indigenous persons.

19. UNICEF will participate in each United Nations coordination group that corresponds to the five main priority areas of UNDAF. Additionally, the United Nations system has 12 inter-agency groups to coordinate interventions, advocacy and communications and operational issues. UNICEF will participate actively in these, and lead as appropriate.

UNICEF will continue to build on its strong partnerships with the public sector, civil society and other international cooperation agencies. In addition, the private sector of Guatemala will be an ever important ally in promoting corporate social responsibility, given its increasing engagement on social issues.

### **Social inclusion**

20. Indigenous persons suffer from historical and structural exclusion and discrimination; indigenous girls are the most excluded, scoring the lowest in almost all social indicators. Children with disabilities and children affected by HIV/AIDS represent other groups that are excluded from the mainstream agenda. This programme component aims to help these disadvantaged children and adolescents to benefit from policies that accelerate social inclusion and fulfil their rights to survive and thrive.

21. UNICEF technical assistance and advocacy will focus on generating political and administrative commitment within the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) to build a social protection system. Furthermore, it will support policies that bring coherence to the services targeting children and adolescents in socially vulnerable situations – services based on recommendations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and other relevant international instruments. UNICEF will also support efforts to generate a national Early Childhood Development (ECD) policy; this will not only help to target the most vulnerable children, but will also strengthen accountability. Advocacy will focus on adequate allocations of national resources for social protection programmes, on ensuring objective eligibility criteria for cash transfer programmes, and the exchange of good practices will be promoted through South-South cooperation inter alia with Brazil, Chile and Mexico, where such programmes have significantly helped reduce inequity and accelerated social inclusion.

22. UNICEF will strengthen the abilities of the Ministry of Social Development and the National Council of Youth (CONJUVE) to promote adolescent participation. This includes supporting opportunities for youth across the country to create and strengthen youth-led organizations, and to improve alliances among them. Particular attention will be focused on ensuring these organizations expand participation of the most disadvantaged groups.

23. Considering the level of social exclusion and vulnerability that adolescent indigenous girls face, UNICEF will help to increase knowledge and capacity of adolescent girls, particularly indigenous ones, to participate in social, political life and protect themselves from HIV and teenage pregnancy. This empowerment model – drawing on strategies developed during the first phase of the United Nations Joint Programme on Adolescent Indigenous Girls – will help generate an increased demand for quality services geared towards adolescent girls. Based on the situation analysis, specific focus will be placed on 60 particularly marginalized municipalities with a high proportion of indigenous persons.

24. The National Plan to Reduce Adolescent Pregnancy (PLANEA) will continue to mobilize commitment among policymakers and the public to promote social inclusion of children and adolescents in extreme vulnerability. Toward this end, key alliances will be expanded with the public sector, civil society, United Nations agencies, donor community and the private sector.

## **Protection of children and adolescents**

25. The protection component seeks to expand availability and access to child protection mechanisms at regional and municipal levels that protect children and adolescents from rights violations – particularly those involving violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect; the areas in which children are most exposed to these violations will receive special attention. The emphasis will be on prevention, strengthening the protective capacities of families and communities and seeking alternatives to migration. This requires cross-sectoral coordination (involving State actors, United Nations agencies, and non-governmental organizations) to expand access to secondary education, alternative learning opportunities, entrepreneurship programmes, and improved social protection programmes. Inter-country collaboration will also be sought to address migration issues.

26. The main components of the child protection mechanism are to ensure strong coordination and a functional referral system between multiple State institutions to respond to the needs of children and prosecute offenders who violate their rights. UNICEF will work with the central and municipal governments, the judicial system, Congress, civil society and relevant United Nations agencies. Technical support will be provided to the judicial system to prosecute crimes against children as well as to promote alternative measures to assist adolescents in conflict with the law.

27. One aim of the protection component is to strengthen the technical capacity of key stakeholders to provide specialized, quality child protection services, thus increasing their accountability. Special attention will be paid to the protection of children without parental care, alternative care solutions, and the promotion of community support to vulnerable families. UNICEF will also support the child protection unit within the Ministry of Education to prevent violence and create a violence-free learning environment. South-South cooperation will be promoted to facilitate the exchange of good practices and strengthen violence prevention and alternative care. UNICEF will also play a catalytic role in promoting public-private collaboration to increase birth registration rates.

28. Envisioning the creation of a government body for child protection, UNICEF will promote legislation to better articulate the respective roles and responsibilities of child protection institutions, as well as to regulate alternative care for children based on the recommendation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child Committee. It will also advocate for adequate resource allocation (human and financial) to enforce legislation to protect children from violence. To facilitate the referral of children across institutions, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to design a harmonized data information system.

29. Activities targeting the general public aim to increase general knowledge and awareness of child rights. They also seek to reduce tolerance of any forms of violence against children – including gender-based violence – as well as impunity for crimes committed against children, building an environment in which the general public will report and denounce violence against children.

## **Education for life**

30. In line with Educational Goals 2021, a landmark cooperative agreement to raise the quality of teaching and learning in Latin America and the Caribbean, guaranteeing access to universal preschool, primary and secondary education is a priority in Guatemala. Yet recent drops in primary school enrolment indicate that greater effort is required to reach all school-aged children, simultaneously expanding access to preschool and secondary

education. UNICEF will support the Ministry of Education to help children, particularly indigenous girls in rural communities, to access and complete at least one year of preschool and primary education. This, in turn, will create greater opportunities for secondary education.

31. UNICEF will help to design, adopt and apply norms and regulations to strengthen institutional and budget management, responding to the demand to universalize preschool, primary and secondary education. Support will continue to reinforce capacity to analyse the existing education management information system and take timely corrective action to ensure access and student retention. Social demand will be promoted to advocate for greater State funding for education.

32. Educating families and community members – particularly among indigenous populations – so that they may demand quality primary education and greater opportunities at the preschool and secondary level is a priority for UNICEF.<sup>19</sup> This component also aims to raise awareness among parents regarding the importance of children regularly attending school. Furthermore, in response to the transparency mechanism established by the Ministry of Education that requires schools to report back to the community, UNICEF will enhance the capacity of parents to analyse this information and conduct social auditing.

33. UNICEF will help to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education's monitoring network to implement specific interventions to address bottlenecks, curb repetition and drop-out rates, and consider gender differences, inclusion, and cultural relevance within the learning environment. UNICEF will also guide the Ministry of Education to strengthen preparedness for natural disasters and enhance resilience.

### **Healthy start for life**

34. The focus of the Healthy Start for Life component is on reducing chronic malnutrition and expanding access to quality prenatal, delivery and perinatal care, as well as supporting A Promised Renewed by accelerating a decline in child and maternal mortality. It envisions a comprehensive health, nutrition and WASH package for women and children to guarantee healthy growth and development – particularly during a child's first 1,000 days – as well as to reduce chronic malnutrition and maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. Indigenous women and girls will be a particular focus, as up to 70 per cent of them give birth at home, where they are more vulnerable to complications.

35. Healthy Start for Life will support the national strategy to reduce malnutrition and government efforts to coordinate a multi-sectoral approach to scaling up and sustaining interventions focused on the child's first 1,000 days. Technical assistance will be provided to the Ministry of Health to strengthen the health information management system so that it can guarantee the availability of relevant, real-time, disaggregated information to generate immediate response to women and children. As the leader of the WASH and nutrition clusters, UNICEF will support annual updates on emergency preparedness and response plans in coordination with a wide range of governmental and non-governmental partners and United Nations agencies.

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<sup>19</sup> The 29 municipalities were selected based on the Human Development Index, Poverty rates, and multi-dimensional equity index developed by UNICEF Guatemala, and proportion of indigenous population (over 90 per cent of the population in these municipalities are indigenous).

36. UNICEF will build the capacity of health services at the community level to provide quality, culturally relevant services, with particular attention to antenatal care, HIV testing for pregnant women, Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission (EMTCT), paediatric HIV treatment, adequate micronutrient supplementation, and skilled services at birth. It will also contribute to improving institutional capacity to manage essential health supplies – such as micronutrients, HIV test kits, Oral Rehydration Sachets (ORS) and zinc – to ensure their availability. Equally critical, UNICEF will help to strengthen the capacity of midwives and community health workers to act as the agents of change in their communities.

37. Communication for development (C4D) will continue to be the key strategy to generate behaviour change among populations exposed to extremely vulnerable situations. Based on the findings from bottleneck analyses, advocacy efforts targeting caregivers and community leaders will be intensified to address the quality of prenatal care, exclusive breastfeeding, adequate complementary feeding, hygiene practices and early stimulation of young children. The inter-sectoral community commission for food and nutrition security – with participation from local representatives of the ministries responsible for health, education, nutrition and agriculture – will be strengthened to implement the C4D strategy in targeted communities. UNICEF will closely follow the impact of C4D work through periodic sample surveys.

### Summary

| <i>Programme component</i>             | <i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i> |                        |               |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
|                                        | <i>Regular resources</i>                       | <i>Other resources</i> | <i>Total</i>  |
| Social inclusion                       | 1 875                                          | 5 250                  | 7 125         |
| Protection of children and adolescents | 1 525                                          | 15 250                 | 16 775        |
| Education for life                     | 939                                            | 9 250                  | 10 189        |
| Healthy start for life                 | 1 431                                          | 10 250                 | 11 681        |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>5 770</b>                                   | <b>40 000</b>          | <b>45 770</b> |

## Programme and risk management

### Funding budget table

38. Funding shortages, safety and security, natural disasters and epidemics are recurring issues highlighted in the country programme's risk assessment. Resource mobilization efforts will be intensified for thematic areas, which traditionally receive less interest from potential donors. UNICEF will also continue to promote partnerships with emerging regional donors and with the local private sector, with whom collaboration on malnutrition and birth registration has already begun. The country office will continue to help leverage resources from bilateral donors.

39. On safety and security, UNICEF continues to actively participate in the UN security management system, and strict compliance to all the Minimum Operating Standards for Security is given highest priority.

40. With regard to risks related to natural disasters, the programme will maintain vigilance regarding the UNICEF Early Warning and Early Action system. It will also include disaster risk reduction activities to strengthen local resilience and emergency preparedness and response capacity to reduce the negative consequences of recurring natural disasters.

41. UNICEF will continue to closely monitor for results through periodic internal programme reviews and semi-annual reviews with implementing partners, while ensuring the compliance with the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT). UNICEF will seek to adjust and provide more detail within its rolling workplan to facilitate timely implementation of programme activities.

42. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

43. UNICEF will support efforts to monitor the situation of children and government actions to comply with recommendations of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the UNDAF results through regular reviews with national partners. Together with other United Nations agencies, UNICEF will provide technical assistance to strengthen the Sectoral Coordinators Office of the National Statistics Institute to ensure the country produces, analyses and disseminates data on children and adolescents with disaggregation by gender, age, ethnic group and geographical area; this includes periodic national surveys, such as the Demographic and Health Survey.

44. UNICEF will strengthen the capacity of the National Statistics Institute to disseminate information through the DevInfo platform and support line ministries at national, regional and local level to improve the quality and timeliness of administrative data management. Toward this end, UNICEF will promote the benefits resulting from the application of bottleneck analyses in the education and nutrition sectors. This will be done by supporting partners to analyse determinants in real time to remove the main barriers that prevent excluded populations from accessing quality services.

45. UNICEF and other United Nations agencies will provide technical assistance to the Presidential Secretariat for Planning and Programming to conduct an evaluation of the national strategy to reduce malnutrition, which has been supported by UNICEF since 2012. Three major evaluations are planned, linked to the Mayan Joint Programme (mid-term), the Child Protection component (mid-term) and the Government-led Zero Hunger Plan.

## Annex

## Results and resources framework

## Guatemala-UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2015-2019

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>Relevant Articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 17, 26 and 27</p> <p>National Priority (related Millennium Development Goals/Millennium Declaration Commitments or other internationally recognized goals): National Priorities Plan 2012-2016. Zero Hunger; Security, Justice and Peace; Fiscal and Competitiveness Pact; MDGs 1-7.</p> | <p>UNDAF OUTCOME INVOLVING UNICEF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Households in rural areas gain food and nutrition security with integrated and sustainable approach.</li> <li>The priority populations increase access to and retention in education, including technical training, such as quality, inclusive and culturally relevant literacy learning.</li> <li>The priority populations increase access to and use of integrated quality health services, which are culturally relevant and inclusive.</li> <li>The system of Urban and Rural Development Councils and the relevant governmental institutions develop policies and invest to promote the protection, adequate use and conservation of natural resources, and community resilience in face of natural phenomena.</li> <li>The public security institutions adopt civilian, preventive and democratic security approach, with human rights perspective.</li> <li>The priority populations have improved protection and violence prevention systems in their public and private environment.</li> <li>The judicial sector institutions increase efficiency and effectiveness in solving cases, with a focus on inclusion and equity.</li> <li>Indigenous people, especially youth and women, exercise active citizenship and effectively participate in decision-making on development issues at community, municipal, departmental and national level.</li> <li>Public institutions and civil society develop defense mechanisms against all forms of stigma and discrimination against LGBT people, women, indigenous people and other vulnerable groups.</li> </ul> <p>Outcome indicator measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>% of pregnant women and lactating mothers, and % of boys and girls under 24 months accessing the interventions of the first 1,000 days.</li> <li>% of each central governmental institution budget assigned and implemented by programme, project and activities to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition</li> <li>preschool enrolment rate</li> <li>primary school gross completion rate</li> <li>secondary school enrolment</li> <li>% of the national budget assigned to and implemented by the public education institutions</li> <li>% of birth attended by skilled personnel</li> <li>Number of communities and municipalities certified in Disaster Risk Reduction(DRR) and resilience by the National Coordination for Disaster Reduction</li> <li>Number of new national public management instruments in violence prevention</li> <li>Number of education institutions that implement a violence prevention strategy with emphasis on the most vulnerable groups</li> </ul> |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of organizations and indigenous communities, in prioritized municipalities, that know and exercise their rights, in particular their right to participate in decision-making and public policies which affect them</li> <li>• Number of public institutions adopting policies to eliminate stigma and discrimination towards vulnerable groups.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                    |                                                                       |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Related UNICEF Strategic Plan Outcome(s): (from Strategic Plan 2014-2017): Social inclusion; Child protection; Education; Nutrition-Health-HIV & AIDS-WASH.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                    |                                                                       |              |
| UNICEF Outcomes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Key Progress Indicators, Baselines and Targets                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Means of Verification                                             | Indicative Country Programme Outputs                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Major Partners, Partnership Frameworks             | Indicative resources by CP Outcome (in millions of US\$) <sup>1</sup> |              |
| <b>Social Inclusion:</b><br>By the end of 2019, excluded and disadvantaged boys and girls and adolescents benefit from a policy that accelerates social inclusion to fulfil their rights for survival and develop their full potential.                                                                                                                                                                    | 1. Number of new National Social Protection Programmes for adolescent mothers, families with children living with disabilities and families with children affected by HIV that help them overcome economic and social barriers<br>BL: 0/2014, G: 3/2019. | Administrative information of MIDES<br>Ministry of Public Finance | <b>Output 1:</b> Improved capacity of government institutions to adopt and implement a national social protection plan with adequate budget, and to offer equitable social protection programmes for boys and girls, including adolescents. | MIDES<br>CONJUE<br>Municipalities<br>Civil Society | RR<br>1.9                                                             | Total<br>7.2 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2. Number of families with children living in indigenous areas covered by existing social protection programmes<br>BL: 91,250/2013, G: 320,000/2019                                                                                                      |                                                                   | <b>Output 2:</b> Increased capacity of CONJUE to promote adolescent participation, in particular of disadvantaged children, to develop their skills and opportunities to participate in decision making processes.                          |                                                    | OR<br>5.3                                                             |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 3. Number of public policies addressing early childhood development, child marriage and children living with disabilities implemented adequately<br>BL: 0/2014, G: 3/2019                                                                                |                                                                   | <b>Output 3:</b> Increased knowledge and ability of girls and adolescents, particularly out-of-school indigenous girls in rural areas, to demand social services.                                                                           |                                                    |                                                                       |              |

<sup>1</sup> Figures are rounded to the nearest tenth.

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| 4.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Public social expenditure for children and adolescents as a percentage of GDP.<br>BL: 3.1% /2014, G: between 4.5% and 8% /2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Output 4.</b> Increased capacity of State institutions to monitor social investment in children, to produce and analyse reliable and disaggregated statistics on children and women, and to follow up on the recommendations of CRC and CEDAW.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                            |           |            |               |
| <b>Protection of children and adolescents:</b><br>By the end of 2019, girls and boys benefit from and access decentralized child protection mechanisms and programmes that prevent and protect them from violation of rights, primarily violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. | 1. Number of institutions with internal regulations in line with CRC<br>BL: 8/2014 , G: 15/2019<br><br>2. Number of children in State residential care. BL: 1,925/2013<br>G: 1,500/2019<br><br>3. % of adolescents in conflict with the law sentenced to alternative measures to detention.<br>BL: 53%/2013, G: 70%/2019<br><br>4. Availability of an information system providing reliable and disaggregated data on birth registration coverage.<br>BL:0/2014, G1/2019 | Administrative information of CNA/ SBS/ PGN/ MOE/ MoH/ MIDES/ MINGOB/ OJ/INACIF<br><br>Study of perception<br><br>Administrative information of National Parliament. | <b>Output 1:</b> Child protection mechanisms at central, regional, municipal level developed, with adequate resources and information system articulating the prevention and response to violation of rights.<br><br><b>Output 2:</b> Improved capacity of institutions and key duty-bearers to provide pertinent, gender and age sensitive, specialized protection services to family, to children without parental care, children affected by violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, including in humanitarian situations.<br><br><b>Output 3:</b> Improved capacity of justice sector to conduct efficient and reliable investigation into crimes against children and establish mechanisms to reduce re-victimization.<br><br><b>Output 4.</b> Increased public knowledge and awareness of | CNA<br>SBS<br>Parliament<br>Municipalities | RR<br>1.5 | OR<br>15.2 | Total<br>16.7 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                            |           |           |               |
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| <p><b>Education for life:</b><br/>By the end of 2019, boys and girls, particularly indigenous in rural communities, access and complete at least 1 year of preschool and full primary education, and have increased opportunities to complete secondary education.</p> | <p>1. % of net 1-year completion of preschool (of 6 year-old children) by sex, ethnicity and geographical areas.<br/><i>National level:</i><br/>BL: 45%/2013, G: 49%/2019<br/><i>Priority municipalities:</i><br/>BL: 37%/2013, G: 42%/2019.</p> <p>2. % of children reaching the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at official age disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and geographical areas.<br/><i>National Level:</i><br/>BL: 33.5%/2013, G: 37.5%/2019<br/><i>Priority municipalities:</i> BL: 30.8%/2013, G: 35.8%/2019.</p> <p>3. % increase in gross enrolment to the first year of secondary education disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and geographical areas.<br/><i>National Level:</i><br/>BL: 85.4%/2013, G: 90.4%/2019<br/><i>Priority municipalities:</i><br/>BL: 67.6%/2013, G: 75.6%/2019.</p> | MoE annual administrative statistics. | <p>children's rights to protection and rejection of violence, including gender-based violence, abuse, exploitation, negligence and impunity of crimes against children, to contribute to a protective environment.</p> <p><b>Output 1:</b> Increased capacity of the Ministry of Education to adopt and apply standards and regulations, to implement management mechanisms, and to adjust budget to meet the need toward the universalization of preschool, primary and secondary education at the right age.</p> <p><b>Output 2:</b> Increased skills and abilities of parents and community members to contribute to the improvement of school environment, timely enrolment to preschool and primary school and demand secondary education opportunities in targeted areas.</p> <p><b>Output 3:</b> Enhanced capacity of MoE to use performance monitoring network, management and support mechanisms to guarantee positive, culturally relevant, inclusive, and gender sensitive learning experiences in schools and develop resilient communities in targeted areas.</p> | Ministry of Education<br>Civil Society<br>Local Government | RR<br>0.9 | OR<br>9.3 | Total<br>10.2 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|

| Healthy start for life:<br>By the end of 2019, women, girls and boys, particularly those in rural indigenous areas, access comprehensive package for health, nutrition and WASH, to guarantee the healthy growth and development, in particular during the child's first 1,000 days (from conception to 2 years of age), and to prevent and reduce chronic malnutrition and morbidity/mortality. | 1. % of children under 5 years who are moderately and severely stunted<br><b>National Level:</b> BL: 49.8%/2008/9, G: 44.8%/2019)<br><b>Priority municipalities<sup>20</sup>:</b> BL: 59.9%/2012, G: 49.9%/2019. | MoH annual administrative statistics<br>ENSMI 2008/2009<br>ENSMI 2014<br>ENSMI 2019<br>ICEFI | Output 1: Strengthened management and coordination mechanisms of the governmental institutions linked to the 1,000 days-initiatives to accelerate the reduction of malnutrition in a healthy environment, including emergency situations.<br><br>Output 2: Increased capacity of the health services (at priority municipalities) to reach all women (emphasis on pregnant women) and infants to provide antenatal care, including EMCT service, nutrition supplementation and counselling, to support their healthy development<br><br>Output 3: Improved capacity of parents and caregivers to apply appropriate nutritional and healthy practices to their children in targeted areas | Ministry of Health<br>SESAN | RR<br>1.5  | OR<br>10.2   | Total<br>11.7 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2. % exclusive breastfeeding rate among children 0-5 months old.<br><b>National Level:</b><br>BL: 49.6%/2008-2009, G: 64.6 %/2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                             |            |              |               |
| 3. % of women attended at least four times during their pregnancy by any health service provider.<br>BL: TBD by 2015, G: Increase by 10 percentage points/2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                             |            |              |               |
| 4. % of health budget allocated specifically for interventions to reduce malnutrition. BL: 10.8%/2014, G: 18%/2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                             |            |              |               |
| <b>Total Resource</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                             | <b>5.8</b> | <b>40.00</b> | <b>45.8</b>   |

CNA: National Adoption Council  
 CONJUNE: National Youth Council  
 ENSMI: Demographic and Health Survey  
 ICEFI: Central American Institute of Fiscal Studies

<sup>20</sup> 166 priority municipalities defined in the national strategy to reduce chronic malnutrition.

|         |                                                            |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| INACIF: | National Institute of Forensic Science                     |
| MIDES:  | Ministry of Social Development                             |
| MINGOB: | Ministry of Interior                                       |
| MoE:    | Ministry of Education                                      |
| MoH:    | Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance.           |
| OJ:     | The Judiciary                                              |
| PGN:    | Solicitor General's Office                                 |
| SESAN:  | Presidential Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security |





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**For action**

### United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**Second regular session 2014**

9-12 September 2014

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

### Country programme document\*\*

#### Paraguay

#### *Summary*

The country programme document (CPD) for Paraguay is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval. The Executive Board is requested to approve the aggregate indicative budget of \$4,910,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$7,000,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for the period 2015 to 2019.

\* E/ICEF/2014/14.

\*\* In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, the present document reflects comments made by Executive Board members on a draft version that was shared with them 12 weeks before the 2014 second regular session of the Executive Board.



## Programme rationale

1. Paraguay has 6.6 million inhabitants, of whom 2.4 million (36 per cent) are children and adolescents. The indigenous population accounts for 2 per cent of the population, of which 54 per cent is children and adolescents.
2. Total and extreme poverty have decreased to 24 per cent and 10 per cent respectively as of 2013, but poverty affects children and adolescents more intensely – 33 per cent are poor and 15 per cent live in extreme poverty. Social inequalities are aggravated and poverty is greater among rural children (43 per cent and 23 per cent respectively) and indigenous children (77 per cent and 63 per cent respectively in 2008)<sup>1</sup>. The social protection programmes for cash transfers do not include comprehensive care measures for children and adolescents. Cash transfers are conditioned on school attendance and health check-ups, though these are scarcely monitored.
3. The Committee on the Rights of the Child, in reviewing the country's submission, recommended increasing investment in children, improving information systems, increasing children's access to health and nutrition services, and improving access to and quality of education, especially in rural and indigenous areas. It particularly emphasized early education, professional training of teachers, raising parental awareness of early stimulation and developing policies and programmes to prevent and respond to violence, abuse and exploitation of children.<sup>2</sup>
4. Children and adolescents are not sufficiently reflected in public policies and investment, despite the progress in legislative areas – against child pornography, trafficking and bullying; in support for care for child victims of violence; and in modifications to the Penal Code regarding sexual abuse and the law for nutritional guarantees in early childhood. The percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) destined for social investment (11 per cent in 2010) is among the lowest in Latin America, and investment in children fell from 6 per cent of GDP in 2000 to 5.3 per cent in 2012.<sup>3</sup> Social protection programmes do not include comprehensive interventions for children and adolescents.
5. The country has made significant efforts to improve data collection. However, statistical systems do not generate enough disaggregated data, and there is a lack of evidence on issues concerning children, especially on violence, abuse and exploitation. Specialized surveys are not regularly implemented, which poses challenges for follow-up and analysis, especially for children and adolescents belonging to excluded populations. Information is based largely on administrative data, which tend to be limited due to under-registration.
6. Paraguay has reported significant achievements with respect to the Millennium Development Goals, yet great challenges remain. Maternal mortality declined in recent years, but the rate continues to be very high (84.9 per 100,000 live births) given that 95

<sup>1</sup> Dirección General de Estadísticas, Encuestas y Censos (DGEEC) (General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses), Encuesta Permanente de Hogares 2013 (Permanent Household Survey) and Encuesta de Hogares Indígenas (Indigenous Household Survey), 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Committee on the Rights of the Child, recommendations for Paraguay, 2010.

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF Paraguay, 'Inversión en la Infancia', 2013.

per cent of births take place in health care facilities.<sup>4</sup> The main direct causes of maternal mortality are haemorrhage, toxæmia and abortions. In 2008, 20 per cent of all births were to adolescent mothers aged 15-19.<sup>5</sup> The reasons for high maternal mortality are related to insufficient budgets, late prenatal checks, delay in access to obstetric services and poor quality of care in those services. Violence against pregnant women and lack of support by their partners contribute to the mortality rate.

7. Neonatal mortality is particularly high and has remained unchanged, at 11 per 1,000 live births, over the last 20 years, with significant disparities among geographic zones. Of every 100 children under 19 who die in Paraguay, 42 die in the first 28 days of life due to delivery complications, infections and congenital malformations. Two thirds of these deaths are preventable.<sup>6</sup> The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, UNICEF and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) have recently begun the design of a national mobilization campaign against maternal and neonatal mortality.

8. According to the National Institute of Food and Nutrition, chronic malnutrition affects 14.5 per cent of the children under 5 who come to clinics for health care (2012). Poverty, food scarcity, lack of safe drinking water and basic sanitation, low birthweight, low rates of breastfeeding (47 per cent of newborns begin in the first hour of life, but only 12.8 per cent are exclusively breastfed through the age of 6 months) and unawareness of correct complementary feeding practices are the main causes of chronic malnutrition. The recent Early Childhood Nutritional Guarantee Law is an important step, as it extends coverage of preventive actions and care for malnourished children. Nonetheless, implementation of the National Child Food and Nutrition Plan (PANI) in the framework of the law remains limited, the budget is insufficient and the monitoring and evaluation system needs improvement to aid decision-making.

9. Paraguay has advanced in education coverage, but inequities and low quality persist. Coverage in preschool, the third cycle of basic education and secondary education remains low. The average number of years of study increased from 6.67 to 8.64 between 1997 and 2011, but significant disparities remain between urban and rural zones (10 and 6.4 years of schooling respectively) and between the wealthiest urban quintile and the poorest rural one (12 and 5.3 years respectively). Indigenous peoples have on average 3 years of education.<sup>7</sup> Parity between boys and girls attending school is maintained at all levels, but there is no qualitative information on violence and gender equality in the system.

10. In Paraguay, 8.4 per cent of all children between ages 5 and 17 are out of school, with adolescents between 15 and 18 the most excluded.<sup>8</sup> Insufficient attention to early childhood, late entry into school and poor quality of schooling are reflected in the high degree of repetition in the first cycle of basic education, low retention rates and rates of children old for their grade. Of every 100 children beginning first grade, only 35 finish secondary school in the officially stipulated time. The World Economic Forum 2013-2014 ranks Paraguay 138th in education system quality out of 148 countries.

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<sup>4</sup> Ministerio de Salud Pública y Bienestar Social, sub-sistema de información de las estadísticas vitales.

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF Paraguay, 'Situación del derecho a la salud de la niñez y la adolescencia en Paraguay', 2013.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> DGEEC, Permanent Household Survey 2011 and Indigenous Household Survey 2008.

<sup>8</sup> DGEEC, Permanent Household Survey 2013.

11. Children and adolescents who are more likely to be excluded from school are those who live in rural areas or in poverty, are indigenous and/or monolingual Guaranis, have a disability or do not attend preschool. Exclusion affects girls and adolescent boys to a greater degree. One of the main causes of school dropout among adolescents is the lack of pertinence of the curriculum, which does not meet their expectations in terms of training for the job market. The exiting vocational/technical training opportunities are disperse and provided by diverse institutions. They are not linked to the official education system and are not yet evaluated for their efficiency and effectiveness.

12. The National System for the Promotion and Protection of Children's Rights, created by law, has been poorly implemented in terms of establishing the necessary structures and the quality of its services. A quarter of children under age 1 do not have birth certificates, and the rate rises to 35 per cent among indigenous children.<sup>9</sup> The main barriers are a shortage of civil registry offices, insufficient institutional collaboration and legal gaps. On a positive note, registration offices have recently begun opening in maternity hospitals.

13. Around 61 per cent of all children suffer from physical and psychological violence, and 35 per cent suffer serious abuse.<sup>10</sup> The number of complaints filed regarding sexual abuse of children and adolescents is increasing.<sup>11</sup> Almost 25 per cent of children between ages 5 and 17 perform some kind of remunerated economic activity.<sup>12</sup> The child labor rate is above 30 per cent among males in rural areas and adolescents.<sup>13</sup> In Paraguay around 46,993 girls and adolescents perform domestic labor, and a large percentage of them do not attend school. In 2012, 1,707 children under age 18 were living in 68 alternative care institutions, 5 per cent of them under age 3.<sup>14</sup> The number of adolescents (aged 14 to 18) deprived of their liberty was approximately 500, in 10 institutions.<sup>15</sup>

14. Paraguay frequently is affected by floods and droughts that jeopardize agriculture and livestock raising. These natural disasters also threaten the survival and development of children and adolescents, especially in indigenous and rural communities.

15. Important lessons regarding indigenous education from the 2007-2014 programme are serving as a foundation for the new country programme. The midterm review document noted that efforts to construct an inclusive education policy for indigenous children benefited from sustained UNICEF support. This particularly focused on strengthening indigenous peoples' capacities to affect educational policies and fostering their participation in dialogues with civil society organizations, academia and education authorities. This process led to the approval of the Law on Indigenous Education (2007) and the Languages Law (2010), as well as the installation and strengthening of

<sup>9</sup> DGEEC, Permanent Household Survey 2011 and Indigenous Household Survey 2008.

<sup>10</sup> Base Educativa y Comunitaria de Apoyo (Educational and Community Support Basis) -BECA/ UNICEF, 'Estudio sobre maltrato infantil en el ámbito familiar Paraguay' ('Study on child abuse in the family in Paraguay'), 2010.

<sup>11</sup> Number of cases received by the Public Ministry for punishable acts of maltreatment of children and adolescents and sexual abuse of children and adolescents, 2005-2010.

<sup>12</sup> ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and DGEEC, 'National Survey of Activities of Children and Adolescents, 2011: Magnitude and characteristics of child and adolescent labour in Paraguay' 2013.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> UNICEF, calculated based on the tracking and monitoring system of the National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents (SNNA).

<sup>15</sup> These statistics are taken from reports found on the website of the Ministry of Justice and Labour, [www.mjt.gov.py](http://www.mjt.gov.py).

the General Directorate of Indigenous Education (DGEEI). The study of 'Schools in Indigenous Communities in Paraguay 2006-2011', published by the Ministry of Education and UNICEF in 2013, revealed that the creation of the DGEEI led to an increase in indigenous enrolment at all levels, especially of girls, and in secondary education. Other results were reduced grade repetition and dropout and an improvement in the number and academic level of teachers from indigenous groups. UNICEF also provided support to the indigenous peoples of Paraguay to prepare the 2013-2018 Plurilingual Education Plan, which was ratified by the current Government.

16. Advocacy based on updated data on the situation of children facilitated the discussion and positioning of child-related themes during the recent electoral period. It also contributed to coordinated mobilization with various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) comprising the Children's Front and partnerships with the private sector, 'thinking groups' (dedicated to generating knowledge through research) and the media. Implementation of a well-articulated communication campaign with key messages contributed to these mobilization efforts, as evidenced in extensive media coverage and more citizen recognition of the importance of children's themes on the electoral agenda. As a result, all the presidential candidates signed the '20 Commitments for Children and Adolescents', and it was subsequently ratified by the president. These commitments are being incorporated into the National Development Plan (NDP) and are part of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the new country programme.

## **Programme priorities and partnerships**

17. The programme's overall objective is to support the country in ensuring that children and adolescents, especially those who are excluded and disadvantaged, have their rights realized as a result of the progressive elimination of the barriers impeding access to quality social services and a protection system that is effective against all kinds of violence.

## **Programme components**

18. The programme of cooperation is aligned with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as well as with the strategies and results outlined in the NDP and UNDAF. It will have four programmatic components and seven results at the outcome level. It is a part of the UNDAF in the areas of protection and guarantee of the rights of all persons, social inclusion, early childhood care, education and health and nutrition.

## **Health and nutrition**

19. In the framework of strategic objective 2 of the NDP (section 2.3, health and nutrition) and UNDAF result 2.4, UNICEF will contribute to helping children, adolescents and women (especially from the most excluded groups) gain access to high-impact health services with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach. The emphasis will be on reducing maternal and neonatal mortality.

20. Support will be provided to the Ministry of Public Health and Social Wellbeing in designing and implementing an innovative, evidence-based national mobilization promoting dialogue in the application of policies and programmes and fostering the increase of public health budgets for the reduction of maternal-neonatal mortality in the framework of the A Promise Renewed. This work will be performed in collaboration

with partners such as PAHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

21. Together with these partners, the programme will support efforts to strengthen government technical capacity to analyse, develop guidelines and implement practical solutions to improve the health of pregnant women and newborn babies; promote the prevention of adolescent pregnancy; and implement the first phase of these services in the health districts of Alto Paraná and Canindeyú, where indigenous populations are concentrated. UNICEF will collaborate with the PAHO-supported Integrated Health Services Delivery Networks to strengthen their capacities to apply quality norms and standards, with an intercultural and gender-sensitive approach. The focus will be on maternal and neonatal care and prevention of adolescent pregnancy.

22. The country programme will implement communication strategies on the right to free universal mother and child care and will promote safe delivery that is culturally sensitive. It will prioritize education interventions to encourage women and their partners and families to care appropriately for mothers and newborns. The emphasis will be on paternal co-responsibility and prevention of violence against women, especially during pregnancy.

23. Analysis regarding the right to nutrition has revealed the scarcity of data, the most recent being from 2005. There are no national statistics on obesity. The data show alarming figures on malnutrition among indigenous and rural poor populations, and the barriers to nutrition are multisectoral. It is important to strengthen alliances with partners working to expand coverage of safe drinking water and sanitation and improve housing (with IDB and the National Secretariat for Housing and Habitat); food security (with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO]); and school lunch programmes (with FAO). UNICEF will continue to focus on creating partnerships, based on its background promoting nutrition as a priority on the development agenda and in emergencies. This included support for passage of the Law on the Nutritional Guarantee for Early Childhood and the presidential commitment to increase the budget for its implementation.

24. In the framework of objective strategy 2 of the NDP (section 2.3, health and nutrition) and UNDAF result 2.5, the programme will contribute to provision of quality and timely care to prevent malnutrition and obesity in pregnant women and children under 5 by 2019. This support will take place through the Integrated Health Services Delivery Network, in collaboration with PAHO, the United Nations Development Programme, World Food Programme and FAO.

25. UNICEF will advocate for allocation of the budget pledged to implement the nutrition law and for the country to develop the capacity to implement interventions with a gender-sensitive approach. The goal is to improve the nutrition of pregnant women, children and adolescents, especially from the most excluded and disadvantaged populations. At the local level, UNICEF will support strengthening of institutional capacities to identify and remove barriers impeding surveillance of growth and development; promotion of exclusive breastfeeding up to the age of 6 months; and family counselling for adequate complementary feeding beginning at 6 months.

26. The programme will promote implementation of national surveys to provide periodic nutritional data disaggregated by sex and population quintiles, with emphasis on indigenous populations. As an innovation, it will support strengthening of the PANI monitoring system to provide data in real time. It will also aid efforts to enhance institutional capacity for monitoring and analysing the effectiveness of the programme

for preventing and reducing malnutrition and obesity in children and pregnant women in selected districts.

### **Education**

27. In the framework of strategic objective 2 of the NDP (section 2.2, education quality), UNDAF result 2.3 and the second, fifth and sixth general goals of the Education Goals 2021, the programme of cooperation will contribute to ensuring that by 2019 the most disadvantaged and excluded children will have access to an inclusive and quality education that encourages them to remain in the system and finish their studies. It will support the Ministry of Education to reinforce school disaster risk reduction strategies.

28. The programme will support the development and implementation of management mechanisms for inclusive quality education with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach, aimed at the mentioned populations. It will collaborate with the Ministry of Education at national and subnational levels in partnership with the European Union, Organization of American States and NGOs.

29. To achieve gender equality in education and inclusion of children and adolescents from indigenous and rural groups and those with disability, UNICEF will promote policy dialogue and advocacy at national and local levels. Technical assistance will be provided to strengthen institutional capacities for quantitative and qualitative analysis of exclusion from education; analysis of the barriers that cause it; and implementation of innovative and intersectoral responses with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach.

30. Because of the high dropout rate among children above age 12, UNICEF will advocate for improving the secondary school curriculum. It will also advocate for vocational/technical training that is linked to traditional education and can also lead to university. The effectiveness of these initiatives on returning of girls and adolescent boys to schools will be analysed. The programme will support indigenous children, adolescents and women to participate and learn leadership skills for influencing educational policies. Through teacher training, it will also contribute to avoiding gender stereotypes in the classroom.

31. The programme will support implementation of the recently approved National Plan for Early Childhood, advocating for greater investment. The priority is to strengthen technical capacity for standardized normative frameworks and competencies to improve family child-rearing practices. The programme will also support comprehensive care services to encourage inclusive and relevant early childhood education in the areas of greatest exclusion.

### **Protection**

32. In the framework of strategic objective 2 of the NDP (section 2.7, protection of the rights of children) and UNDAF result 1.1, the programme will aim to ensure that by 2019 children and adolescents have access to timely birth registration and services to prevent violence, abuse and exploitation, including gender violence, and care for those who have experienced such abuses. In this component, UNICEF will collaborate with public institutions and NGOs participating in national round tables encouraging civil registration and discouraging violence. The country programme will coordinate with relevant partners to prevent, and provide support to children affected by, violence and abuse in emergency situations.

33. UNICEF will support strengthening of the National System for the Promotion and Protection of Children with advocacy and technical assistance, in order to improve its financing and the quality of its services. To increase the coverage of timely birth registration, UNICEF and its partners (Plan International and the Organization of American States) will advocate for a comprehensive law on identity and budget for its implementation. Together these partners will also provide technical support for the Ministries of Health and Justice to open registration offices in maternity hospitals; strengthen the capacities to provide registration services and increase demand; and support universal and timely birth registration, especially in rural and indigenous communities.

34. The programme will advocate for and provide technical assistance to Paraguay to promote the laws against corporal punishment and gender violence, in partnership with the National Commission against Violence. UNICEF also will provide technical support for the country to implement successful experiences in preventing and responding to violence at municipal level, through work in priority zones with the National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents (SNNA) and the Municipal Councils on Children. Prevention of violence, especially against girls and women, will also be incorporated into other programme components. UNICEF will collaborate technically with the SNNA and the International Labour Organization (ILO) to prevent child labour, especially domestic work, and expand coverage of the child labour eradication programme to more geographic areas and include services for adolescents.

35. In 2013 Paraguay signed the call for action to deinstitutionalize children. Jointly with civil society organizations, UNICEF will seek to strengthen the country's institutional capacities to supervise implementation of national legislation for deinstitutionalization, especially for children under age 3, and for protection of children in alternative care.

#### **Social inclusion**

36. In the framework of strategic objective 2 of the NDP (section 2.1, social protection) and UNDAF results 2.2.1 and 2.1.3, this component is aimed at increasing investment in children by 2019. It also supports development of public policies and monitoring of programmes providing disaggregated information to improve social inclusion among the most excluded and disadvantaged children and adolescents.

37. Together with the civil society organizations comprising the Front for Children, the programme will support government institutions in establishing an agile and effective mechanism to monitor the '20 Commitments for Children'. The objective is to increase investment in children and adolescents and promote efficient implementation of the commitments. UNICEF will support consolidation of monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms for public policies for children and adolescents and the assignment of budget for them.

38. UNICEF will advocate and provide technical support to the Secretariat of Social Action to strengthen the components of comprehensive care for children and adolescents in social protection programmes. The objective is to ensure that the most excluded children and adolescents can benefit from pertinent and comprehensive care with a gender-sensitive approach.

39. National capacities will be strengthened to generate quality information disaggregated by gender, age, ethnic origin, geographic location and socioeconomic condition. This work will take place in collaboration with the General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses (DGEEC) and sectoral ministries. UNICEF will work with academic centres to promote analysis and use of information from a

multidimensional poverty perspective to identify the most excluded and disadvantaged groups. This information will serve as input for designing effective interventions for social inclusion.

#### Cross-sectoral costs

40. This component covers costs associated with efficient and effective programme, financial and human resources management. It includes implementation of the UNICEF information and corporate communication strategy, strengthening of corporate social responsibility emphasizing child and adolescent rights, and corporate relations.

#### Summary budget table

| <i>Programme component</i> | <i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i> |                        |               |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
|                            | <i>Regular resources</i>                       | <i>Other resources</i> | <i>Total</i>  |
| Health and nutrition       | 470                                            | 2 430                  | 2 900         |
| Education                  | 1 010                                          | 1 750                  | 2 760         |
| Protection                 | 940                                            | 1 500                  | 2 440         |
| Social inclusion           | 1 030                                          | 1 000                  | 2 030         |
| Cross-sectoral             | 1 460                                          | 320                    | 1 780         |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>4 910</b>                                   | <b>7 000</b>           | <b>11 910</b> |

#### Programme and risk management

41. The link between the country programme and the UNDAF will be supported by UNICEF participation in the United Nations inter-agency groups on human rights, indigenous peoples, gender and emergencies. These groups will promote joint programming, especially in gender and results-based management. The periodic United Nations country team meetings and the process of preparing the annual report of the resident coordinator will serve as a framework for inter-agency monitoring of UNDAF implementation. Sectoral coordination with strategic partners will continue through the donors' round tables involving United Nations agencies and external partners.

42. The scarcity of funds for implementing some thematic areas is one of the greatest risks to achievement of programme results. UNICEF will continue efforts to mobilize resources from traditional and non-traditional donors, some of them based in Paraguay, in priority thematic areas and in alignment with the Strategic Plan 2014-2017. Ties will be strengthened with national and international businesses operating in the country to promote corporate social responsibility with a child rights approach. The programme also will promote South-South cooperation as a mechanism for strengthening the exchange of knowledge and good practices. UNICEF will continue supporting work with partners and allies addressing nutrition, health, education and protection, to leverage resources for continuation of programme activities despite the scarcity of resources.

43. Programme results will be at risk if economic or fiscal crises prevent the country from keeping its promise to increase social investment focused on excluded and disadvantaged children. To mitigate this, UNICEF and its partners and allies will

strengthen parliamentary advocacy and continue to promote the position that realizing the rights of children and adolescents must be an absolute priority on the country's policy agenda. The partners also will advocate for greater and more efficient investment in children, seeking to ensure that programmes dedicated to children receive the necessary resources.

44. Weakness of the public sector's institutional management and frequent changes of counterparts are other risks that could compromise the achievement of results. Through technical assistance, UNICEF will reinforce the capacity of mid-level technical personnel to apply legislative and institutional frameworks. It also will continue to diversify partnerships, including with civil society, the private sector and the media, to jointly advocate for increasing the investment in children.

45. To ensure quality, efficiency and effectiveness, programme components will focus on a few high-priority themes. The situation analysis has been used to enhance programme design, and it will be used in monitoring the removal of bottlenecks at national and local levels. UNICEF will continue to promote implementation of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers as one of the United Nations' mechanisms for simplifying and reducing transaction costs.

46. This country programme document outlines UNICEF contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures.

## Monitoring and evaluation

47. The programme of cooperation will support monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children and compliance with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. National capacities will be strengthened, especially those of the DGEEC, to ensure the availability of disaggregated statistics on children and adolescents. The use of periodic surveys on the situation of children will be promoted, such as the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), to obtain standardized data that can be used as baselines for reporting the impact of social programmes.

48. The programme of cooperation will support monitoring and evaluation of the situation of children and compliance with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. National capacities will be strengthened, especially those of the DGEEC, to ensure the availability of disaggregated statistics on children and adolescents. The use of periodic surveys on the situation of children will be promoted, such as the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), to obtain standardized data that can be used as baselines for reporting the impact of social programmes.

49. The capacities of the Ministries of Health and Education will be reinforced, along with those of implementing NGOs and priority municipalities, to analyse determining factors and generate information in real time through administrative records. This will make it possible to monitor the identification and elimination of bottlenecks impeding equitable access to quality services.

50. The Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan calls for implementation of strategic evaluations to support programme activities. Depending on the availability of resources, the programme will support the first evaluation of the impact of the PANI,

along with local programmes for maternal/infant health, child-rearing actions in early childhood and nutrition and education. Surveys will be undertaken to measure the impact of advocacy and communication campaigns.

51. The annual programme reviews with counterparts will make it possible to periodically monitor progress, in support of necessary adjustments. These reviews will also inform and complement the UNDAF review processes. At the end of 2018, an external evaluation of the programme of cooperation will be conducted as an input for the next cycle.

## Annex

## Results and resources framework

## Paraguay-UNICEF country programme of cooperation, 2015-2019

For additional acronyms used, see list below:

**Relevant articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child:** 2 to 9, 12, 13, 17 to 21, 24, 28, 30 to 34 and 40  
**National priorities in accordance with the National Development Plan 2014-2018:**

1. Improve the coverage, access, effectiveness and quality of health care.
2. Improve education quality at all levels, especially in rural areas and areas with social vulnerability.
3. Protect children against discrimination, violence, maltreatment and abuse.
4. Increase social protection with an equal-opportunity approach for vulnerable populations and populations in social risk.

**UNDAF OUTCOME INVOLVING UNICEF:**

- 1.1. Paraguay will have advanced in the protection and guarantee of the rights of all persons, with emphasis on those who are in situation of vulnerability and discrimination.
- 2.2.1. Strategies to increase public expenditure in social services and social protection
- 2.1.3. Promotion and support to increase the quantity and quality of investment on children and adolescents.
- 2.3. Paraguay will have advanced on integrated early child care, on universal access and culmination of pre-school, basic and secondary education, with high levels of quality.
- 2.4. Paraguay will have advanced towards universal health coverage, with access to integrated and quality services, taking into consideration diversity and specific needs of the population
- 2.5. Paraguay will have advanced towards food and nutritional security and access to safe water and sanitation.

**Outcome indicator measuring change that includes UNICEF contribution:**

- Infant and neonatal mortality rate
- Maternal mortality rate
- Net schooling rate in (a) preschool, (b) basic primary and second cycle, (c) basic third cycle and (d) secondary school
- Population up to age 3 in child care and early education institutions
- Prevalence of chronic child undernutrition

**Related UNICEF Strategic Plan outcomes:** 1, 4, 5, 6, 7

| UNICEF outcomes | Key progress indicators, baselines and targets | Means of verification | Indicative country programme outputs | Major partners, partnership frameworks | Indicative resources by CP outcome (millions of US\$) |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                             | Regular resources (RR);<br>Other resources (OR) <sup>16</sup> |     |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                             | RR                                                            | OR  | Total |
| 1. By 2019, children, adolescents and women, especially from the most excluded groups, have access to maternal neonatal health care of good quality and high impact, with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach | 1.1 Percentage of births attended by qualified personnel<br>Baseline (2008): 95% <sup>17</sup><br>Goal (2019): 97%                                                                                              | Bio statistical data from the Ministry of Health and Social Well-being (MSPyBS) | 1. Reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality is recognized as a national priority                                                                                                                          | Health Donors' Roundtable, PAHO, IDB, UNFPA | 0.5                                                           | 1.7 | 2.2   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1.2 Percentage of pregnant women with at least four prenatal check-ups.<br>Baseline (2008): <sup>18</sup> 90.5%<br>Goal (2019): 95%                                                                             | Baseline (MoRES) and periodic specialized surveys in intervention zones. MICS   | 2. National counterparts have the capacity to analyse and implement solutions to improve the health of pregnant women and newborns                                                                            | Local health councils                       |                                                               |     |       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1.3 Percentage of pregnant women and newborns receiving postnatal check-ups in the first 15 days following release from the hospital. <sup>19</sup><br>Baseline (2008): 76.6% <sup>20</sup><br>Goal (2019): 85% |                                                                                 | 3. Integrated Health Service Delivery Networks apply quality maternal/neonatal health norms and standards with an intercultural and gender-sensitive approach, improving their capacity in priority districts |                                             |                                                               |     |       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                 | 5. Women and their partners, families and communities in priority districts have attitudes, knowledge and practices to improve maternal and neonatal health                                                   |                                             |                                                               |     |       |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                             |                                                               |     |       |

<sup>16</sup> Figures are rounded to the nearest tenth.<sup>17</sup> OPS-MSPyBS, Indicadores Básicos de Salud, 2013.<sup>18</sup> ENDSSR, 2008, p. 232.<sup>19</sup> Obstetrics and Neonatal Norms and Procedures (MSPyBS 2001) establish the controls that should be practised upon release, after 15 days and at the end of one month following birth. ENDSSR 2008, p. 241.<sup>20</sup> ENDSSR, 2008, p. 266.

|                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                        |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 2. By 2019, pregnant women and children under 5 receive quality and timely care to prevent and treat malnutrition and obesity in the Integrated Health Service Delivery Network.              | <p>2.1 Number of districts implementing the PANI's (a) preventive and (b) treatment modality.<br/>Baseline (2013): (a) 15; (b) 178<br/>Goal (2019): (a) 242; (b) 242</p> <p>2.2 Number of (a) children and (b) pregnant women benefiting from PANI<br/>Baseline (2013): (a) 37,075; (b) 5,452<br/>Goal (2019): (a) 195,467; (b) 42,207</p> <p>2.3 Per cent of target population attended by PANI having key knowledge of breastfeeding and adequate complementary feeding of children under age 5.<br/>Baseline: TBD<br/>Goal (2019): TBD</p> <p>2.4 Exclusive breastfeeding rate<br/>Baseline: 12.8 %<br/>Goal (2019): 25 %</p> | Household surveys<br>National Institute for Food and Nutrition Information System     | <p>1. Paraguay has legislation, budget and capacity to implement solutions with a gender-sensitive approach to improve the nutrition of expectant mothers and children, especially in the most excluded populations</p> <p>2. Health services in the priority districts have capacities to implement high-quality strategies for improving nutrition with a preventive approach</p> <p>3. The country's health system has an online monitoring system for malnutrition, with disaggregated and quickly accessible information, especially on excluded populations</p> | Health Donors' Roundtable.<br>PAHO, FAO, WFP.<br>Local health councils | 0   | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| 3. By 2019, the most disadvantaged and excluded children and adolescents have access to inclusive and high-quality education that allows them to stay in the system and finish their studies. | <p>3.1 Rate of termination of primary studies by cohort (EEB)<br/>Baseline (2011): 48.3%<br/>Goal (2019): 71%</p> <p>3.2 Percentage of out-of-school children<br/>Baseline (2013): 8.4%.<br/>Goal: TBD%</p> <p>3.3 Percentage of children at risk</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Household surveys<br>Ministry of Education and Culture<br>Education Statistics System | <p>1. The country has strategies, standardized normative frameworks and competitive practices for improving child-rearing practices in families and with comprehensive early childhood care services, in areas of greatest exclusion</p> <p>2. The education system has information and inclusive</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Education Donor Roundtable, OEI, IDB, NGOs<br>Indigenous organizations | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.8 |

|                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
|                                                                                                                                                                    | of leaving school <sup>21</sup> (over age for grade)<br>(Baseline: 1st and 2nd cycle: 16%; 3rd cycle: 17%; secondary: 17%<br>Goal (2019): TBD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 3.4 Gender parity indexes in primary and secondary education.<br>Baseline (2011): 0.97<br>Goal (2019): 1                                               | 3.5 Number of districts offering public or subsidized comprehensive early childhood care.<br>Baseline (2014): TBD<br>Goal (2019): TBD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | methodologies with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach, aimed at the most disadvantaged and excluded populations<br><br>3. The country has good practices in women's and youth participation that influence educational policy decision-making for the most excluded and disadvantaged boys, girls and adolescents. |     |     |     |
| 4. Children and adolescents have access to timely, high-quality birth registration and services for prevention of and response to violence, abuse and exploitation | a. Percentage of children registered in a timely way.<br>Baseline (2011): 76.1%<br>Goal (2019): 85%<br><br>b. Number of municipalities implementing a comprehensive programme to prevent and respond to violence.<br>Baseline (2014): TBD<br>Goal (2019): TBD<br><br>c. Percentage of children and adolescents who experienced intra-family violent disciplinary practices by | Record of complaints filed through Fonoayuda<br><br>Information systems of the SNNA.<br>National police and juvenile courts<br><br>Specialized studies | 1. The country has instruments and capacities to advance towards universal, timely birth registration, with emphasis on rural and indigenous communities, especially in priority zones<br><br>2. The country has a legislative framework and successful experience in comprehensively preventing and responding to violence, especially against girls, in priority zones and has expanded programmes for | Roundtable on inter-institutional coordination against violence<br><br>National, departmental and local councils on children and adolescents<br><br>CODENIs                                                                                                                                                                   | 0.9 | 1.5 | 2.4 |

<sup>21</sup> Grade repetition is used as an indicator of the risk of exclusion. The methodology assigns a moderate risk of exclusion for children with one year of repetition and critical risk for children with two or more years of repetition.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |     |     |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| <p>5. By 2019 the country has disaggregated information on children, a public policy framework for quality social services and a social protection system with comprehensive services for the most underprivileged and excluded children.</p>                                                                                                                                      | <p>adults.<br/>Baseline: 61% (2010)<br/>Goal: TBD</p> <p>d. Percentage of working children (ages 5-17)<br/>Baseline (2013): 23.5%<br/>Goal (2019): TBD</p> <p>e. Percentage of children (ages 5-17) served by child labour eradication programmes.<br/>Baseline (2013): 1.4%<br/>Goal (2019): TBD</p> <p>f. Percentage of institutionalized children adopted by a family in a timely way.<br/>Baseline (2014): TBD<br/>Goal (2019): TBD</p> | <p>eradication of child labour, with emphasis on girls employed as domestic workers</p> <p>3. Paraguay has processes for the deinstitutionalization of children in shelter entities and protective alternative care facilities</p>                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |     |     |
| <p>5.1 Number of commitments (out of 20) included in the NDP on which the Government renders accounts.<br/>Baseline (2013): 0<br/>Goal (2019): 20</p> <p>5.2 Number of renderings of account by the Executive Branch, regarding the 20 commitments.<br/>Baseline (2013): 0<br/>Goal (2019): 4</p> <p>5.3 Percentage of children, adolescents and women beneficiaries of social</p> | <p>General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses.</p> <p>Secretariat of Social Action</p> <p>National Development Plan</p> <p>Articles published in the media</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>1. The country has policy, accountability and budgetary monitoring instruments with a comprehensive approach to children's rights</p> <p>2. The children and adolescents served by social protection programmes benefit from pertinent and comprehensive attention with a gender-sensitive approach</p> <p>3. A monitoring system on the rights of children and adolescents is implemented, generating reliable</p> | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 |

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |     |     |     |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--|
|                                                                                                                                                                          | protection programmes receiving comprehensive and pertinent care.<br>Baseline (2014): 0<br>Goal (2019): 30%                                                                                                                                        |                     | information and analysis with an equity and gender-sensitive approach                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |     |     |     |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                          | 5.4. Number of specialized surveys on children and adolescents, and an estimate of the multidimensional child poverty rate.<br>Baseline: 0<br>Goal: 2                                                                                              |                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |     |     |     |  |
| 6. By 2019, the decision-makers, businesspeople, civil society and families improve their knowledge, practices and attitudes regarding children's access to their rights | 6.1 Percentage of targeted audiences that recognize and engage with UNICEF as the leading agency for children's rights.<br>Baseline: TBD<br>Goal: TBD<br><br>6.2 Percentage of mothers who have improved their knowledge, attitudes and practices. | Reports in VISION   | 1. Decision makers, businesspeople, civil society and families have greater knowledge and participate in social mobilization and advocacy for the rights of children<br><br>2. Businesspeople are trained and implement corporate social responsibility with a child-centred approach in managing their businesses | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.5 |  |
| 7. Effective and efficient management of human and financial resources in pursuit of results                                                                             | 7.1. Percentage of (a) financial implementation and (b) DCT > 6 months.<br>Baseline (2013): (a) 94%, (b) less than 10%<br>Goal: (a) 95%, (b) 0%                                                                                                    | Reports from VISION | 3. High quality programme through results-based management                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 1.3 | 0   | 1.3 |  |

CODENIs - Consejerías Municipales por los Derechos del Niño, Niña y Adolescente (Municipal Councils for Children and Adolescents)  
DCT - (Direct Cash Transfer); Transferencia Directa de Efectivo  
EEB - Educación Escolar Básica (Basic School Education)  
ENDSSR - Encuesta Nacional de Salud Sexual y Reproductiva (National Survey on Sexual and Reproductive Health).  
Fonoayuda - Telephone-based system for victims of abuse to call for help and assistance  
MoRES - (Monitoring Results for Equity System); Sistema de Monitoreo de Resultados para la Equidad  
OEI - Organización de Estados Americanos (Interamerican States Organization).  
OPS - Organización Panamericana de la Salud (Pan American Health Organization, PAHO)  
WFP - (World Food Programme); Programa Mundial de Alimentos

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Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda\*\*

**Extensions of ongoing country programmes\*\*\*****Note by the secretariat***Summary*

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions of the country programme for Iraq and of the common country programme for the United Republic of Tanzania, approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extension of the country programme for Botswana, a two-month extension, following two one-year extensions, for Mali, and a nine-month extension following a one two-year extension for Colombia. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

*Draft decision**The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programme for Iraq and of the common country programme for the United Republic of Tanzania, which were approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1;

2. *Approves* the two-year extension of the country programme for Botswana, a two-month extension, following two one-year extensions, for Mali, and a nine-month extension following a one two-year extension for Colombia as presented in table 2.

\* Double reissued for technical reasons on 3 September 2014.

\*\* E/ICEF/2014/14.

\*\*\* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 August 2014; previously issued under the symbol E/ICEF/2014/P/L.17.



Table 1

## One-year extensions of ongoing country programmes approved by the Executive Director

| UNICEF-assisted country programme | Original programme period | Year approved for extension | Reasons for extension                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Iraq                              | 2011-2014                 | 2015                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In view of the humanitarian crisis in Iraq, in line with United Nations Funds and Programmes and as per the request from the Government of Iraq, a one-year extension of the country programme is requested.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| United Republic of Tanzania       | 2011-2015                 | 2016                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To align with the extended United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAF) cycle as recommended by the regional United Nations Development Group team (UNDG).</li> <li>- To align the next UNDAF to national priorities of the Government of United Republic of Tanzania, in view of ongoing national initiatives, consultations regarding the post-2015 development agenda, and general elections in 2015.</li> </ul> |

Table 2

## Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

| UNICEF-assisted country programme | Original programme period | Period proposed for extension                                                                    | In-country development                                                                                                | United Nations harmonization                                                                                                                                                        | Implementation or other issues                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Botswana                          | 2010-2014                 | 2015-2016<br><i>two-year extension</i>                                                           | To align the current country programme cycle with the current Botswana National Government plan ending in 2016.       | The two-year extension of the cycle would harmonize with the current United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and United Nations Programme Operation Plan cycle.     | The programme extension would allow UNICEF to continue strengthening results through ongoing interventions. |
| Colombia                          | 2008-2012                 | 1 January 2015-30 September 2015<br><br>Nine-month extension, following a one two-year extension | The nine-month extension would allow the National Development Plan cycle and UNICEF country programme cycle to align. | The extension would allow UN agencies to better harmonize their respective country programmes, and the UNDAF, with the national planning cycle following the elections in May 2014. | Extension of the country programme will allow the continued implementation of ongoing UNICEF programmes.    |

| UNICEF-assisted<br>country programme | Original programme<br>period | Period proposed for<br>extension                                                                                 | Reasons for extension                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                      |                              |                                                                                                                  | In-country development                                                                                                                                                       | United Nations harmonization                                                         | Implementation or other issues                                                                                                     |
| Mali                                 | 2008-2012                    | 1 January 2015-<br>28 February<br>2015<br><br>Two-month<br>extension,<br>following two<br>one-year<br>extensions | The extension would<br>allow alignment of the<br>UNICEF country<br>programme with the<br>UNDAF and the national<br>Government plan, which<br>are being jointly<br>developed. | The extension would allow<br>alignment with CPD<br>submissions by UNFPA<br>and UNDP. | The extension would<br>ensure that<br>implementation of the<br>country programme can<br>continue until approval<br>of the new CPD. |